

SPIRIT OF

St. Francis

ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL,
HUMPHREY, NE, NEWSLETTER



ROCK'N ON

THE BAND CONTINUES TO GROW

Despite losing several seniors last year, the St. Francis Rock and Soul Band continues to grow. With a change up at lead vocals from a female voice last year, sophomore, Matthew Brockhaus, brought energy to the stage during a performance of *Beat It* at the winter concert.

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

FATHER STAN SCHMIT

Christmas and New Years are a distant memory and I pray that they were good to you. The second semester of school has begun and the many activities that go along with it. Part of this is the aspect of working through the changes that are going to take place with our school joining together with Holy Family as a Central Catholic high school.

At the time of writing this letter the Transition Team I selected is working through one of the first steps necessary in forming a new entity, selection of a new name and mascot to be approved by the archbishop. I understand that just like the name given to us at birth is an important part of our identity, the same can be said about the name of the school one attended. This makes me think of the widely accepted practice in our society when women are asked to change their last name to that of their husband's, in many ways it's expected. Does this mean they no longer are who they have been during their whole life up to that point? Does it mean they no longer have a family they belong to? Not by any means. She is what she has always been, the same beautiful, intelligent, wonderful daughter of God and of her parents. In the same way, no matter what the name or mascot of our school is, the alumni of St. Francis will always be St. Francis Flyer's and always be part of our family.

All things in life change. We are asked as children of God to accept His guidance, believe in His Spirit, and move forward with trust. For when we leave this earth it is God to whom we must answer in how we followed His path set out for us.

I thank you for the millions of ways you are servants of God in your daily living. As we finish this chapter of HSF, let us make the next chapter even better and brighter for generations to come, through your continued prayers and assistance.



Christ's Peace & Blessings,

Fr. Stan Schmit
stschmit@archomaha.org

WAYS TO GIVE BACK

There are many ways that you can help us further our mission at St. Francis. Here are a few suggestions:

- Remember St. Francis in your estate planning.
- Donations of grain or cash.
- Underwrite an issue of Spirit of St. Francis newsletter.
- Purchase items from the wish list.

To learn more about these opportunities and more ways to give back, please call the parish office at 402-923-0913 or contact Ashley Krings via email at akrings@hsfschool.org.

*A generous person will prosper;
whoever refreshes others will be
refreshed. Proverbs 11:25*

A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

JENNIFER DUNN

Among my daily prayers, I read The Morning Offering which lands in my inbox about 4 AM each day. Included in The Morning Offering is a quote, a meditation, a Bible verse, the readings for the day and an explanation of the saint of the day.

I am always amazed at how something selected to be included in the day's offering connects to my life in a tangible way.

Today's amazement came with a quote from our very own St. Francis of Assisi: "We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way."

This piece of wisdom was included the day following our faculty Christmas party at which I gifted St. Francis medals to the staff asking them to pray to St. Francis of Assisi for our intercessions. So I ask him in my heart and publicly, St. Francis, pray for me. Pray for our school community. Pray for our parish. Pray for us as we navigate the waters of merging Holy Family and St. Francis high schools into one central Catholic high school for the area.

When the disciples were on the sea in a storm, Jesus said to Peter, "Do not be afraid. I am with you." Jesus asked Peter to trust him, and He asks us to do so as well.

St. Francis of Assisi trusted Jesus and

"got out of the boat." He was born into a wealthy family, but he was captured during a war and held prisoner for a year. He then had conversion experiences that led him to leave his former life of decadence behind to follow the teachings of Jesus and to share that message with others. St. Francis also said, "Preach the Gospel at all times; if necessary, use words."

Thank you alumni for your support through time, talents, financial means and prayers.



Mrs. Jennifer Dunn
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INHERITING A PROGRAM

ALUMNI TINA SCHUMACHER
FILLS BIG SHOES FOR ONE ACT

When Theola Peck announced her retirement in the spring of 2012, Mrs. Dunn had to find a replacement not only for an English teacher, but also for a one act director and a speech coach. In the ten years she was at St. Francis she built both programs, winning one state championship in one act and two in speech.

Mrs. Peck was a tough act to follow, but Mrs. Tina Schumacher was handed the one act reins in 2012 and has been doing her best to continue what Mrs.

Peck started. "I watched Theola's plays for my first ten years of teaching. It was anxiety inducing to follow in her footsteps, especially considering I had absolutely no idea how to run a one act program."

The first play she chose was a script left behind by Mrs. Peck: "The Greatest Christmas Pageant Ever." "I really did not even know where to even look for a play and I asked Theola what to do. She told me that she had left behind plenty of scripts and I should choose one of those, so that is what I did." Schumacher worked through practices and took to heart the advice and direction that judges gave at festivals and competitions. "That first year we placed second at conference, and we scored second at districts but were bumped a place because we were over the time limit. That was a true learning experience for me; I watched the clock closely after that. It was the experience of the juniors and seniors who had been in plays in the past that helped us do well. They knew what they were doing far more than I did because they had worked with Theola."

The second year the team produced "Snow White." The kids did well, placing first at conference and second at districts. "It was a learning curve for me from the get-go, but critique from judges at festivals and competitions as well as from watching the way other directors told their stories were integral in my education by fire. It also helped that I had kids who were willing to work hard to develop their talents." "Secondhand stores and I became good

friends as I sought out costumes. Some alteration and costume creation was necessary and Ann Denkinger helped to alter and sew original pieces starting in that year and for a few other plays." She has found help from other community members as well. "One year, Josh Wessel came to practice to help the kids learn how to carry a military casket and how to give a military salute with guns. Another year Sarah Kessler helped the kids learn to dance as people would have in the 1800s.

"The biggest lesson I learned the first two years was that Theola Peck was juggling a whole lot as the sole director of the play. It is a huge undertaking with all new moving parts each year." Fortunately for Schumacher, Tim Wiese was hired to teach math at St. Francis in 2014 and she invited him to lead the crew in building and painting the set. Mr. Wiese must have brought the magic as in 2014 the team not only won at conference, but also districts, performing "Soapy's Follies" an adaptation of an O. Henry short story titled "The Cop and the Anthem" by O. Henry which was Schumacher's first attempt at writing her own script. At state the team placed second to Wausa as anyone with familiarity to one act in Nebraska knows is a perennial favorite with their productions.

Since 2014, the one act team has made it to state four more times with "Two Fronts" in 2017, which placed third; "No Loose Ends" in 2018, which placed first; "Under a Cavern Sky" in 2021, which placed first; and this year's reprisal of "Soapy's Follies" placed fifth. Both years

the team placed first at state, the youngmen who played the main character in the play (Kelly Zach and Seth Wiese) were awarded Best Male Performer in class D1, which is a tremendous honor. There was no play in 2020 due to a plague of Covid illness among the team and coaches.

In the ten years that Schumacher and Wiese have led the team together, they have produced nine plays, winning six conference titles, five district titles, and two state titles. Over the years other coaches have come and gone. Joe Luther (assistant in 2012), Sherry Runnels (makeup), Michael McPhillips (stage direction), Vitoria Wiese (playwright and stage direction) and Rose Weise (set direction) all worked with the team at some point in the past twelve years that Schumacher has been the head coach/director. “When there are more adults ‘running the show’, it is possible to spread out the responsibilities, and that is really helpful. We can bounce ideas off of one another and make shared decisions on what is best for the story we are telling. Tim and I have been the core for these many years, though. Tim is a calming influence when I feel like I’m driving a runaway train. I don’t know what I would do without him.”

One challenging aspect of one act is finding time to practice. Most one act participants are also football, volleyball, dance or basketball team members, FFA members, employees of local businesses, and participants in activities outside of school, such as gymnastics, dance, and even taking CNA classes. “My goodness it can be hard to find time to

squeeze in practices, especially when football and volleyball are doing well—which is often!” She finally settled on Wednesday nights for practice, which has worked well. There are generally no games scheduled because it is religious education night for public schools. “We have seven or eight practices before our first festival performance, which I consider a dress rehearsal in front of a judge. The crew also works on Wednesday nights to build and paint the sets and props, so we are often working with makeshift pieces on the stage until late October or early November, but it all works out.”

Storage, Support, and the Big Shuffle

After the third year, Schumacher had amassed quite a few costumes, storing them on racks on the stage and in the small closet under the stairs that lead to the football cage (also on the stage). After her mom passed away in June of 2015, her family asked if there was anything she needed at school. Without hesitation she told them she could use a costume closet. “I was not even thinking about my parents’ estate or why they were asking. I just thought we were talking.” The next thing she knew, she had the money and permission from administration to build a closet in the table and chair room (which some alumni might remember as the weight room). “We named the closet ‘Narnia,’ and it is utilized for more than one act. Students use hats and costumes for class projects and presentations. I sometimes get to produce a children’s play as a part of one of my classes, so costumes are needed for that. The

elementary teachers make use of it as well when their students need costumes for a project or a day like All Saints Day. Finally, the melodrama players store their costumes in Narnia as well.” The closet has been a positive addition to both the program and the school. “I have rented costumes to other directors from time to time when they needed help. I charge less than costume shops, but any money from costume rentals is helpful for the program. It is a win-win situation.”

On top of the costume closet, there is room for storage of props and set pieces. “We try to reuse and recycle as much as we can from play to play, but we have collected many set pieces over the last twelve years because every play has different set and prop needs. There are also large pieces on the stage in the elementary school gym, many left behind by Mrs. Peck, but some are newly generated. Every year the set crew makes numerous trips up and down the steps to bring pieces down and return them if they do not work for the play. “Mr. Wiese is wheelchair bound so it is impossible for him to get up the three flights to look over what we have available. The kids do send him images with their phones, but most of the time they have to carry things down and then back up if they do not work.”

The table and chair room is used as a shop during one act season for building and painting the set. A utility sink was installed about nine years ago so that the crew could wash out paint brushes, rather than take them to the art room or the bathrooms. This room is also used

for storage of tables and chairs equipment for athletics and physical education. Football players use it for ice for baths as well as dress for practice. The basketball teams meet in the T/C room during half time of their games. “Needless to say, finding the right place for storage of equipment when each season is over as well as room to work on sets can be truly a struggle.”

This is why in 2022 Schumacher put in a wish list request for an upper deck for storage that would extend from the top of the costume closet along the south wall to the east wall. Through the generous donation of parts from A&H Construction and labor from K Builders, the upper deck was built before one act season was complete that year. One act, track and volleyball equipment and other odds and ends are stored on the upper deck during their off seasons. Lighting was installed under the deck and repaired on the ceiling, so the room is now well lit. “Before the lighting renovations, the crew was often working in the dark with the help of a standing lamp and a shop light.”

“The deck has helped out quite a bit with the clutter in the room, but it would be really great to have another deck installed on the south side of the room above where the tables and chairs are stored. The crew and Mr. Wiese would have easier access to set pieces. There is a lot of room “up”, and it makes sense to have a second floor of sorts in that room.” Another option would be to have a small shed installed on the premises for storage of lumber and set pieces that Mr. Wiese could have access

to from the ground. “Both of these options would solve a lot of storage problems among the different programs using the room, and they are on my wish list, of course!”

Necessary Improvements with Stage Lighting

Each November St. Francis hosts a one act festival. There have been up to nine schools in attendance, and it is a fundraiser for the season as schools pay to attend. There is also a concession stand provided by the booster club and staffed by one act participants and parents. Both the booster club and the one act program benefit from the sales at the concession stand.

This year there was some unexpected drama during the few days before the festival as the stage lighting stopped working. “We were unable to control the lights from the light board in front of the stage, and the colored lights on the stage ceiling did not work at all. Not only were we hosting a festival in a few days, we were hosting districts in two weeks’ time with Thanksgiving break in between. This was more than drama; it was a disaster.”

Most theater coaches are flexible as they all have to take their shows on the road and must adapt to whatever is available at the site. All of the coaches at the festival were understanding and provided the necessary lighting with their spotlights. Five spotlights were used to light the stage. “We were able to get the colored lighting fixed with help from Heinen Electric, but then we found out many of the bulbs were no longer

working and we did not have enough on hand to fill the open spots. It’s always something, isn’t it?” A technician from a stage lighting company in Omaha came to Humphrey to determine if the problem could be fixed. “I wondered aloud if we were going to need a whole new system,” but he was able to do a Band-Aid fix to get us through districts. His recommendation is that we send the parts to Minnesota to be refurbished as everything else on the light boxes is in great shape. To replace it with a new system would require new cable and new lamps to be installed—a significant expense. Fixing the lighting so it is in good working condition for the next season is a top priority and will be handled over the winter, hopefully before the melodrama is performed.

It can seem like everything is a priority when working to improve upon what is available, but one other item Schumacher would like to have soon is cages over the lamps that hang from the gym ceiling. During the volleyball season, the lights take a beating and get knocked out of position. A small cage covering each lamp would be beneficial in two ways: first and foremost, the lamps would not face potential damage; second, the lights would remain stable in regard to where the light is directed on the stage. “If it all works out the way I hope, we would not have to borrow the lift from Heinen Electric every year to adjust the lamps. “It is incredibly generous that HE allows us to use the lift when we need it; don’t get me wrong here. It would be so very convenient, though, if when we are

ready to use the lights, we can just flip the switch and have light directed to where it is needed on the stage rather than waiting for volleyball season to end so we can place the lights correctly.” If the volleyball team makes it to state, the lighting has to be set before volleyball practices are finished for the St. Francis one act festival, and sometimes they need to be reset after.

Looking Forward

It never takes long after our final performance for someone to ask what play the team will do the following year. “It is good for me to take some time away from one act, but, to be perfectly honest, I never really stop thinking about it. I consider who I know I will have back for the next year and build an idea for a script around those people.”

Whether to do a drama or a comedy is always a consideration; there are some kids who handle drama very well and others who are comedic by nature. “My personal favorite is telling a story that has a bit of both comedy and drama. Full out dramas can get very heavy and it is hard to find places for highs and lows to give the audience a breather. On the other hand, straight up comedies can become tiresome; again, highs and lows are important.”

Schumacher has written her own scripts in the past, but not for every play. “There are quality scripts available for purchase. It takes a lot of reading to find ‘just the right one,’ but, when I find it, I know. I am always conscious of whether the script tells a story. The story that we tell is important to both Mr. Wiese and me.”

A WORD FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

ERIC KESSLER

The winter sports season is in full swing, which means a lot of practices and games for all our elementary, junior high and varsity teams. It is an extremely busy time as we have teams from grade 3 to the varsity level competing in various basketball leagues and competitions and a very strong youth wrestling program as well.

We are very fortunate for the improvements that have been made to the old gym the last couple of years as most of our elementary practices are held up there.

A HUGE thank you to all those who volunteer their time to coach our various elementary teams and programs. The foundation of our athletic programs is started and built in the elementary years, and we are very fortunate to have such strong youth programs in both wrestling and basketball (and volleyball and football in the fall).

The Flyer and Lady Flyer varsity basketball teams are in the middle of their respective seasons. Both teams are very young and have continued to improve as the season has progressed and are very hopeful of what lies ahead.

The month of January includes the conference tournament that will again

be held at Central Valley (Greeley) this year. February will include the sub-district and district competitions to be held at sites yet to be determined.

The season concludes with the state tournament the first and second weeks of March. Stay updated with game times, locations and streaming possibilities on The Dispatch, the athletic board Facebook page, and Sycamore. Our home games are always streamed via HUDL TV and the Team1 Sports app.

Plans to retire St. Francis alum Allison Weidner's jersey this month were cancelled due to a blizzard. Allison had a tremendous career for the Lady Flyers and had such a positive impact not only on our basketball programs but also our school. She is currently recovering from a knee injury and is looking forward to coming back stronger than ever next season. We are all very proud of our St. Francis alum.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Francis school and athletics. Go Flyers!!!!



Mr. Eric Kessler
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ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL
LIVE STREAMS ON
TEAM1SPORTS.COM



Team photos courtesy of Humphrey Democrat.



A WORD FROM DEVELOPMENT

ASHLEY M. KRINGS

Change is hard! But sometimes, from change, amazing things are born! Earlier this year the Blue and White Night committee learned that we had to move the event to the high school gym. After having a record-breaking year in 2022, we were nervous.

On top of that change, we were also conscious that costs have been on the rise and many people have had to cut back to make ends meet. So many

questions were unanswered; Would we have another record crowd? Could we fit everyone in the gym? Could we still make it feel special in the gym? The list went on.

As we began planning, we started each meeting with a prayer, simply asking God to guide us and help us remember the purpose of our efforts and the event.

As the big day grew close, we were overwhelmed by the number of repeat and new donors. That amazement was then magnified as the event got underway. Guests gleamed as they entered the decorated gym canopied by twinkling lights. As I made my way around throughout the evening, I was stopped frequently by guests who wanted to thank the committee for hosting it at the gym. Many of them saying, "it's so great to be in the gym, it helps us remember why we are here and why we are raising money."

As the night progressed, it was apparent that guests came with generous hearts! The live auction was definitely one to remember; several unique items and experiences were donated. My favorite, though, was the four high school boys who volunteered to be auctioned off to work for the highest bidder. After selling for over \$1,800, they agreed to be sold a second time and went even higher, selling for \$2,100!

When the night was over and all the numbers were added up, I had a hard time holding back tears of joy and amazement! The grand total raised from this year's event was over \$140,000! The change of venue was hard, but something amazing came of it!

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year a success!



Ashley M. Krings
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LEAVING A LEGACY

ARTICLE BY MOLLY GARRIOTT,
CATHOLIC VOICE

After the Archbishop's announcement in December affecting St. Francis High School, Leonard and Adele Hassenstab's daughter and trustee of their trust, Deb Herchenbach, contacted the St. Francis Development office. She wanted to clarify that The Leonard V. and Adele M. Hassenstab Endowment Fund will provide an annual distribution to St. Francis Church of Humphrey for the specific purpose of offsetting the operating expenses of K-12 Catholic education.

"My parents would have been supportive of the archbishop's decision and would view it as a blessing that we will be able to continue the long tradition of providing K-12 Catholic education to the families of this area." - Deb Herchenbach

Leonard and Adele Hassenstab believed that their long and happy life together at St. Francis of Assisi parish in Humphrey was a blessing from God.

Everything - the family they raised, the faith they cultivated, the career success they enjoyed - were gifts, and they strove to be good stewards of these gifts

throughout their lives their daughter, Deb Herchenbach, says.

Adele passed away in November 2022, with Leonard joining his wife of 74 years in January 2023. As in their life, the couple continued to serve the Church in their death, bequeathing a historic gift to their life-long parish through Catholic Futures Foundation of Northeast Nebraska (CFF).

According to the CFF fund description, the Leonard V. and Adele M. Hassenstab Endowment Fund, valued at \$1.75 million, was established “to assist St. Francis Catholic School in Humphrey, Nebraska, by providing an annual distribution of interest to St. Francis Church in Humphrey for the specific purpose of offsetting the operating expenses of St. Francis Catholic School.”

Catholic Futures Foundation funds, like the Hassenstab named fund, “is a way of having support and income from other sources instead of needing to raise all the funds from within the parish, school or organization,” says Father Stanley Schmit, pastor of St. Francis Church.

Gifts, such as the Hassenstabs’, are life-altering for parishes.

“The Catholic faith, including Catholic education, was of paramount importance to my parents. So, a bequest to St. Francis School really aligns with their beliefs and priorities,” Herchenbach says.

“Knowing of my dad’s many years of promoting and managing the St. Francis Endowment Fund, I felt establishing this donor-named endowed fund with CFF would be a perfect way to honor their



wishes of continuing to support St. Francis,” Herchenbach continued. “Their bequest will provide a steady stream to offset school expenses, which will aid in keeping tuition costs affordable for area families. We also hope it will enable the school to continue to offer competitive wages to attract and retain quality staff for the school.”

“On behalf of the school family of Humphrey St. Francis and myself, I wish to express our deepest gratitude for the incredible generosity of Leonard and Adele Hassenstab. Their support and belief in Catholic education for the future is a true sign of discipleship and stewardship,” Fr. Schmit said.

Adele and Leonard both attended St. Francis Elementary School and St. Francis High School. Adele completed two years at Marymount College in Salina, Kansas, and Leonard was drafted to serve in the U.S. Army in the Pacific during World War II. They married in 1948 while Leonard pursued a finance

degree from Creighton University, courtesy of the GI Bill. Upon Leonard's graduation, the couple returned to their native Humphrey, where they raised their eight children and welcomed 30 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Leonard and Adele were active in St. Francis well beyond attending Sunday Mass or being daily communicants.

Adele's definition of family extended beyond nuclear to include the St. Francis community. She served in the school cafeteria as a lunch lady and in the classroom as a teacher assistant, helping students struggling with their ABCs discover the joys of reading. As if she didn't have enough housekeeping with her own family, Adele helped clean the church and launder altar linens, served on dinner committees, and volunteered with the Home and School Association. She even carved out time to sing in St. Francis' ladies' choir.

As employee and eventual owner of Farmers State Bank and owner and operator of Hassenstab Insurance Agency, Leonard channeled his professional experience to St. Francis' many financial boards and committees. For decades, he played an integral role as managing trustee in establishing, building and promoting the church and school endowments. He was an active member of the Knights of Columbus and served on the St. Francis School Board and the Archdiocesan School Board.

He was "keeper of the keys" to the parish finances - and church elevator. When the old church needed an elevator,

Leonard and a fellow parishioner researched which model was best, drove to Omaha to purchase it and then installed it with his brother. When anyone got stuck, they'd call Leonard to get them out.

"They were always so proud to have graduated from St. Francis and then having the blessing of educating their children at St. Francis," Herchenbach says. "They were 100 percent invested in St. Francis and realized that sustaining the parish and school takes a collective effort of many who share their time, talent and treasure."

Herchenbach says her St. Francis education provided a faith foundation that she, her siblings and their own children have relied upon in times of joy and sorrow.

"Catholic education gave all of us a roadmap on how to live, and that provides a great sense of peace in our lives," she says.

As executor of her parents' estate, Herchenbach enlisted the assistance of CFF because it ticked all the boxes her parents would have wished: the monies would benefit their beloved St. Francis, the fund would be managed within the Archdiocese and by a reliable third party, their investment would adhere to their Catholic principles and the fund would be open to contributions from others.

"Investing with Catholic Future Foundation is a perfect way to make a lasting gift for future generations," Herchenbach says.

BELOVED ALUMNI

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

With 2023 at a close, we remember the alumni who have passed in the last year. We are thankful for the memories they left on our hearts.

If you know of someone who has passed that is not listed, please contact the parish office to help us update our records.

Eternal rest
grant unto them,
O Lord, and let **Your**
perpetual light shine upon
them. **May their souls**
and the **souls** of all the
faithful departed
rest in peace.
Amen.

January

- 11 - Norma (Paprocki) Aikins (1950)
- 22 - Arthur Olmer (1948)
- 26 - Connie (Backes) Hegemann (1967)
- 27 - Leonard Hassenstab (1944)

February

- 7 - Judy (Krings) Mares (1960)
- 10 - Norbert Widhalm (1961)
- 28 - Darrell Kruse (1962)

March

- 17 - Clarine (Rist) Loseke (1952)

June

- 11 - Mary Ann (Reinhart) Williams (1945)

August

- 15 - William Babel (1965)
- 15 - Ivan Beller (1954)

September

- 2 - Marcella (Fuchs) Pfeifer (1954)

October

- 3 - Sharon (Chandler) Herchenbach (1972)

December

- 8 - Mark Brockhaus (1980)
- 16 - Mildred (Olmer) Miksch (1944)

HOLY MATRIMONY

ALUMNI MARRIAGES

January 14

Nolan (2018) & Allyson Kosch

May 20

Curtis & Elizabeth (Krings) (2017) Wetovick

June 3

Adam & Brooke (Babel) (2005) Bode

June 17

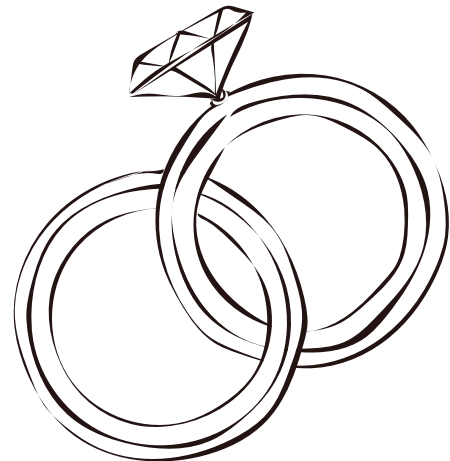
Tony & Brianne (Veik) (2010) Mueller

August 12

Thad & Chasity (Zimmerer) (2020) Hazen

October 14

Mattew & Kim (Krings) (2013) Capoun



CELEBRATING NEW LIFE

ALUMNI EXPANDING THE FAMILY

Congratulations to our alumni who welcomed a new member into their family in 2023. If you added to your family and it is not listed, please contact the parish office to help us update our records.



January

17 - Kallie Jo, daughter of Cassius & Alaina (Pfeifer) (2014) Dole
 18 - Luke Benjamin, son of Casey (2013) & Jacqueline Wegener
 27 - Atlas Michael, son of Brenton (2002) & Jessica Zimmerer

February

4 - Rosalyn Germaine, daughter of Brooks (2004) & Adrian Tasa
 23 - Kollyns Kay, daughter of Eric & Sarah (Pohlen) (2014) Frauendorfer

March

2 - Blaine Jade, daughter of Adam & Brooke (Babel) (2005) Bode
 8 - Addiley Jo, daughter of Trevin (2015) & Jessica Foltz
 15 - Kollyns, daughter of Connor (2014) & Sheridan Eisenmenger
 15 - Easton Jerome, son of Nathan (2007) & Taylor Bender
 28 - Creighton Dale, son of Chance (2003) & Irene Boesch

April

13 - Elorie Ann, daughter of Jeremy (2010) & Brooke Hemmer

May

5 - Raegan Faye, daughter of Craig (2007) & Riley Wemhoff
 25 - Mathais Michael, son of Chad (2003) & Sara Classen

June

1 - Jaxon Dean, son of Carson (2017) & Hannah Weidner
 7 - Nora, daughter of Jordan (2010) & McKayla Krings
 8 - Tate Michael, son of Coltin & Reagan (Howard) (2017) Bauer

August

23 - Sage James, daughter of Miles (2017) & Heather Foltz

September

18 - Kennedy Rose, daughter of Brandon (2014) & Jennifer (Wemhoff) (2011) Weidner

October

22 - Maeve Marguerite, daughter of Trey & Rachel (Herchenbach) (2015) Jenkinson

November

11 - Kenton Charles, son of Ben & Tisha (Foltz) (2016) Frisch
 12 - George Francis, son of Matt & Molly (McPhillips) (2009) Wallish

IN MEMORY OF

During 2023 the school received multiple generous gifts. Many of them were made in memory of loved ones.

+Adolph & Alma Podany
 +Alan Beller
 +Alvin & Cece Eisenmenger
 +Andy Korth
 +Ann Sand
 +Art Olmer
 +Art Olmer
 +Audrey Fuchs
 +Bernie Fuchs
 +Bill Babel
 +Bonnie Ramaekers
 +Brenda Ramaekers
 +Carole Reiner Baumgart
 +Cindy Ayala
 +Class of 1953
 +Class of 1973
 +Deb Kessler
 +Denis & Dolores Zach
 +Don & Phyllis Keller
 +Don Kessler
 +Don Lloyd
 +Donna Zach
 +Earl Widhalm

+Erna Ternus
 +Ervin & Mary Ann Nissen
 +Eugene Herchenbach
 +Fr. Gutsell
 +Gene & Flo Kessler
 +Gene Labenz
 +Gerald & Evelyn Hemmer
 +Helen Ann Zach
 +Helen Zach
 +Ike Arlt
 +Ivan Beller
 +James Rollman
 +Janet & Agnes Kuta
 +Janet Kuta
 +Joan Frisch
 +Joan-Darlene & Mel Van Dyke
 +John & Ellen Rollman
 +Julie Rollman
 +Lenny Eisenmenger
 +Leonard & Adele Hassenstab
 +Linda L. Wemhoff
 +Lois Louis
 +Louella Baumgart

+Louise & Cece Ternus
 +Lux Classen
 +Mark Brockhaus
 +Marlyn & Gene Hunke
 +Maxine Sliva
 +Melvin & Mary Alice Pfeifer
 +Mike Harris
 +Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Zuerlein
 +Nadine Engel
 +Pat Backes Zach
 +Pauline Sander
 +Ralph & Eleanor Eisenmenger Family
 +Randy Herchenbach
 +Ray Jarosz
 +Ray Wemhoff
 +Reichmuth & Huettner Family
 +River Brown
 +Romey & Lena Wisehart
 +Sharon Herchenbach
 +Stella & Solanus Van Dyke
 +The Rollman Family
 +Thomas Rollman
 +Tom Hastreiter
 +Tony & Lena Zuerlein
 +Vic & Millie Babel
 +Vic Brandl
 +Vincent & Tillie Zach
 +Wilfred & Doris Foltz

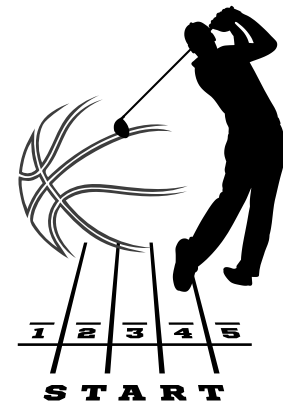
UPCOMING EVENTS

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

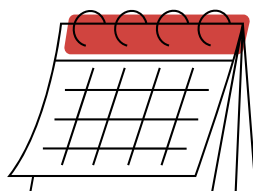
- Catholic Schools Week**
Sun, Jan 28 - Sat, Feb 3
- District Speech**
Tue, Mar 12 @ High Plains
- State Speech**
Fri, Mar 22 @ Kearney High
- Easter Break**
Thur, Mar 28 - Mon, April 1
- State FFA**
Wed, Apr 3 - Fri, Apr 5
- Junior-Senior Prom**
Sat, April 6
- District Music**
Fri, Apr 19 - Sat, Apr 20

ATHLETIC

- Girls Sub-Districts & Sub-Finals**
Tue, Feb 13 & Thurs, Feb 15
- Boy Sub-Districts & Sub-Finals**
Tue, Feb 20 & Thurs, Feb 22
- Girls District Finals**
Fri, Feb 24
- Boys District Finals**
TBD - Feb 24, 26 or 27



- Girls State Basketball**
Thurs, Feb 29 - Sat, Mar 2
- Boys State Basketball**
Thurs, Mar 7 - Sat, Mar 9
- Track Season Opener**
Mon, Mar 25 @ Humphrey
- Golf Season Opener**
Tue, Apr 2 @ Osceola



SPIRIT OF

St. Francis

PO Box 116
Humphrey, NE 68642-0116

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: (402) 923-0818

Fax: (402) 923-1590

www.humphreystfrancis.com

Please contact the parish office
with address updates at 402-923-0913.



St. Francis hosted the Veteran's Day program on November 10. The band played *The Armed Forces Medley*, and students were dressed in uniforms representing each branch of the military..