

THE LOG

Divine Word College

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A Bulletin for the Divine Word College Community

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Birthday Corner

September

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THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

Mission Animation - Sharing Mission

High school can be stressful. While many students are rather desperate to find a place to "fit in," many are trying to be more self-reliant. I recall a story told by Fr. Mark Link SJ.

There was a new freshman girl walking in the hallway between classes. She saw a sophomore girl having trouble taping a large poster to the wall. The younger girl offered to help, thinking she might also find a friend. The sophomore snapped, "I don't need help!" The freshman shrugged her shoulders, walked away sad, and sat down.



What a difference compared to Jesus' ministry. One of the first things Jesus did after his baptism in the Jordan was to call Andrew and John to follow him. Andrew called his brother, Simon Peter, to join the group. Then Jesus called Philip, and Philip called his friend Nathanael. Back in Galilee, Jesus called James and Matthew. Not long after, Jesus called twelve of his followers to share more closely in his mission.

What a difference from the apparently frustrated response of the sophomore girl in the story! Jesus does not say, I don't need help. Rather, he asked them to go the towns of Galilee to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. When Jesus later "turned his face to Jerusalem" and to his expected passion, he sent out another seventy disciples, two-by-two, to the towns of Samaria where he would be passing through.



continued next page

It is startling that the man who walked on water, raised people from the dead, healed the sick, and fed thousands would ask for help.

Some missionaries make the mistake of the sophomore girl in the story. They take everything into their own hands – building chapels without help from the people, taking control of every committee or parish organization, teaching religious education without the help of local catechists, leading the choir and even arranging the flowers!!

Wiser missionaries follow Jesus' example and take every opportunity to invite people to share in the work and the resting, in the planning and the evaluation of projects, and in the sorrows and celebrations of the community. That is mission animation – giving people the encouragement they need to go out and share good news with others.

Do you wonder how the story of the two high school students concluded?

Ten minutes after the sophomore student said she didn't need help, the freshman student got up and walked by the sign. Ironically it announced: "Working together, we can do anything!"

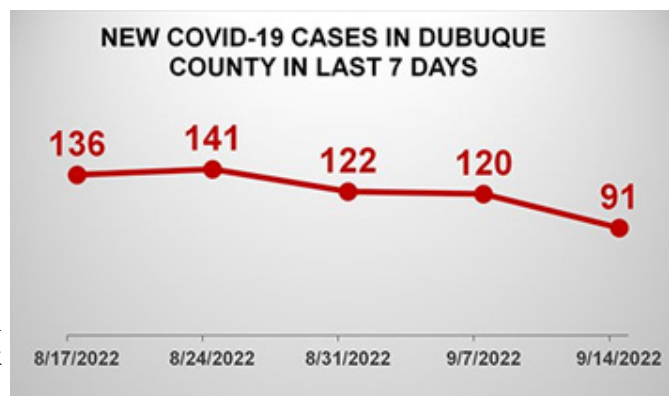
Jesus has a better idea. He shares his life and ministry with us in both word and deed. We can do the same with others.

COVID-19 Guidance

Happily, in recent days, the number of new COVID-19 infections has dropped rapidly in Dubuque County.

Nationwide, the number of new cases also dropped by 15.9% over the previous week.

DWC has begun random testing for the virus. Some members of the student body, faculty, and staff are requested to take a rapid test each week to help monitor the situation at the College. No members of the College community are currently in isolation due to COVID-19 infections.



Welcome Chicago Province Council



The seven members of the Chicago Province Council will be visiting today and tomorrow, September 20 and 21. They will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday morning. The members of the Council are:

- **Fr. Quang Duc Dinh SVD**, the provincial of the Chicago Province and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Divine Word College.
- **Fr. Carlos Macatangga SVD**, the vice-provincial and the Vice Chairman of the DWC Board of Trustees. Fr. Carlos is pastor of Cristo Rei and Salvador do Mundo Parishes in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.
- **Fr. Steve Bevans SVD**, the Admonitor for the Chicago Province. He is a mission theologian who writes and lectures extensively, residing at the Theologate in Chicago.
- **Fr. Guilherme Andrino SVD**, a Province Councilor and District Superior of the New Jersey District. Fr. Guilherme is the pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Lakewood, NJ.
- **Br. Dan Holman SVD**, a Province Councilor and a member of the Techny House Council. Br. Dan is the Director of the Divine Word Mission Center at Techny.
- **Fr. Adam Oleszczuk SVD**, a Province Councilor and the District Superior of the Caribbean District. Fr. Adam is pastor of the St. Martin of Tours Parish in Philipsburg, Sint Maarten.
- **Fr. John Szukalski SVD**, a Province Councilor and the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Divine Word College.
- **Fr. Matheus Ro SVD**, the Chicago Province Treasurer will also be present. Fr. Mat is a member of the Divine Word College Board of Trustees and serves as the Chair for the Trustees' Finance Committee.

It is an honor and a pleasure for Divine Word College to welcome them here for their meeting.



Presidential Scholars

Congratulations to **Sr. Francisca Doofan Aorkaa, SON** and **Mr. Ladouceur Flarissaint** who were selected as the 2022-23 recipients of the Divine Word College Presidential Scholarship.

Divine Word College first awarded the Presidential Scholarship in 1979. This scholarship is a recognition of and an honor for students who show promise of superior academic achievement.

Current DWC students who continue to receive the scholarship and are honored as Presidential Scholars include **Sr. Magdalene, Formilack, SST**, **Omar Gonzalez**, **Sr. Diem Thi Hong Ngo, IHM**, **Sr. Liem Thi Hoang Nguyen, IHM**, and **Sr. Thuy Thi Tran, LHC** and **Fr. Engelbert Salmon, SVD**.

Presidential Scholars

Divine Word College first awarded the Presidential Scholarship in 1979. This scholarship is a recognition of and an honor for students who show promise of superior academic achievement.

Congratulations to our Newest Scholars



Sr. Francisca Doofan Aorkaa, SON



Ladouceur Flarissaint

Current Presidential Scholars



Sr. Diem Thi Hong Ngo, IHM



Fr. Engelbert Salmon, SVD



Omar Gonzalez



Sr. Magdalene Formilack, SST



Sr. Thuy Thi Tran, LHC



Sr. Liem Thi Hoang Nguyen, IHM



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Fr. John Szukalski, SVD

HLC Interim Monitoring Report: Submitted September 2022

Following the accreditation visit in 2019, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) required Divine Word College to submit an Interim Monitoring Report in the area of assessment addressing the following Core Components:

- Demonstrate that different degree levels (associate vs bachelors) have distinct sets of learning outcomes (3.A)
- Demonstrate assessment of student learning with regard to the Core Competencies and the major program PLOs. For components, the institution should report what data has been collected, how it has been analyzed, and how data has been used to prompt changes to the curriculum (4.B)

I am pleased to report that DWC has now submitted the Interim Monitoring Report to the Higher Learning Commission two full months ahead of the November 2022 deadline! A lot of work went into this widely collaborative effort, one that involved the contributions of both faculty and administration through the Academic Assessment Committee, the Faculty Senate, and departmental faculty. I want to extend special thanks to the members of the HLC Interim Monitoring Report Committee: **Dr. Mathew Kanjirathinkal** (co-chair); **Dr. Yasmin Rioux** (co-chair); **Dr. Cathleen Cleary**; **Dr. Jason Reed**; **Ms. Kimberly Burnett-Hackbarth**, and; **Fr. John Szukalski SVD**. The report is comprehensive, well written, and supported with actual assessment data provided through faculty evaluation of student signature assignments. We expect to hear back from HLC regarding the acceptance of the report in the near future. I will publish the 35-page report via VPAA memo later this week (minus the 174 pages of appendices).

Faculty Professional Development

Fr. John A. Szukalski SVD – Associate Professor of Sacred Scripture – was granted professional development funding to attend the annual conference of the Catholic Biblical Association of America at Santa Clara University in California from July 30 to August 2, 2022. The conference featured a panel discussion entitled “Jerome Biblical Commentary for the 21st Century: Why again?” along with dozens of simultaneous sessions on biblical issues of contemporary relevance.



Fr. Akizou Kamina, SVD – Instructor of Theology – was granted professional development funding to attend the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Denver, Colorado from November 19 – 21, 2022. Hosted by the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) and the American Academy of Religion (AAR), it is the world’s largest gathering of scholars interested in the study of religion.



September is National Suicide Prevention Month New 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

If you or someone you know needs help, free and confidential support is available 24 hours/day and 7 days/week. Resources are available at the new 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline website (www.988lifeline.org) or you may contact a mental health professional directly by calling, texting, or chatting using the new three-digit 988 active everywhere in the United States.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

PANAM Formators Meeting

The PANAM formation meeting will be held in Medellin, Columbia, beginning September 26 until October 2. This meeting will bring all the formation directors and those SVD members working in formation from all the provinces and regions in North and South America. The PANAM formation meeting is conducted primarily to share the different stages of formation programs of the congregation in their respective province/region and to foster relationships among all the formation directors of the PANAM zone. Fr. Bang Tran, SVD, and I will be representatives of the Chicago Province to attend this seminar. I will be away from Friday September 23rd to October 8th. Don't hesitate to contact Fr. Raymond Akumbilim, SVD, assistant dean, if you need any help. Your prayers for safe travels and productive meetings will be very much appreciated.

CROSS PLANTING

On Saturday, September 24, you are also invited to participate in planting small white cross in front of our college, coordinated by Sue Lukasik, Tony Grebner and friends. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet posted on the Student Board. For any further information, kindly contact Fr. Simon Thoi Hoang, SVD.

VOCATION MASS

The community of St. John Vianney, composed of all student diocesan and religious priests, will organize a Vocational Mass in praying for an increase of vocation on Wednesday, September 28th, at 8:00 A.M in the main chapel. It is the first time for community members of St. John Vianney to organize it and share their vocation journey. Please come to support and pray for an increase of vocation, especially the chaplain, Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD, and members of the community of St. John Vianney.

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING

It is our honor to welcome Fr. Provincial Dinh Duc Quang, SVD, and his council members who hold their first-time provincial council meeting in our college, on Wednesday, September 21. Please help me welcome them and make them feel at home.

Garage Sale was a success!

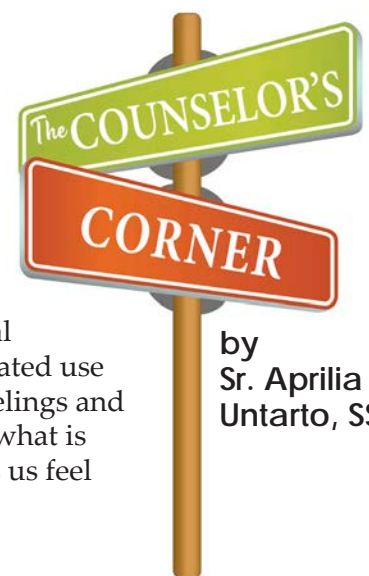
The college's annual Mission Garage Sale last week was a huge success thanks to the time and efforts of many members of the DWC community! We raised more than \$5,000 to support Ukrainian refugees in various countries where Divine Word Missionaries serve. Thank you to all who contributed to this event: those who donated items, those who diligently made more than 2,000 egg rolls and other food items to sell, students who worked at the sale in between their classes, the Student Senate members who organized this year's sale and everyone else who helped in a variety of ways. *"Through this DWC garage sale, we hope to become witnesses of God's love through the act of charity and self-giving for our brothers and sisters that are in dire need of support,"* said Student Senate President Omar Picon Gonzalez. Thank you all for your leadership and dedication to the mission!



Defense Mechanism

A defense mechanism is a behavior used to avoid unpleasant feelings, thoughts, events or actions in an unhealthy way. This is a coping strategy in dealing with issues or difficulties in our everyday life. It is a way to protect ourselves from getting hurt. We do this unconsciously. There are common defense mechanisms we usually use, such as denial, projection, repression, regression, rationalization, reaction formation and intellectualization.

According to Freud, the defense mechanism is part of our psychological development. It is natural and somehow, it is positive. However, repeated use of defense mechanisms may hinder our ability to deal with our own feelings and emotions. A healthy way to deal with this is to take accountability for what is going on inside of us and our behaviors towards something that makes us feel uncomfortable.



by
Sr. Aprilia
Untarto, SSps



VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS

Mr. Steve Winger

Campus Safety

The Board of Administration recently discussed safety measures on the DWC campus. The following items were approved to increase safety on campus and will be implemented in the coming months.

1. Additional security cameras will be added to cover the Megan Hall sidewalk and the courtyard.
2. Speed limit signs will be installed in an effort to decrease vehicle speed through the parking lot.
3. Signage throughout campus to indicate that we are a tobacco free campus and that open alcoholic containers are not allowed. (Except for special occasions)
4. The back gate will be closed to decrease vehicles from cutting through the campus parking lot.

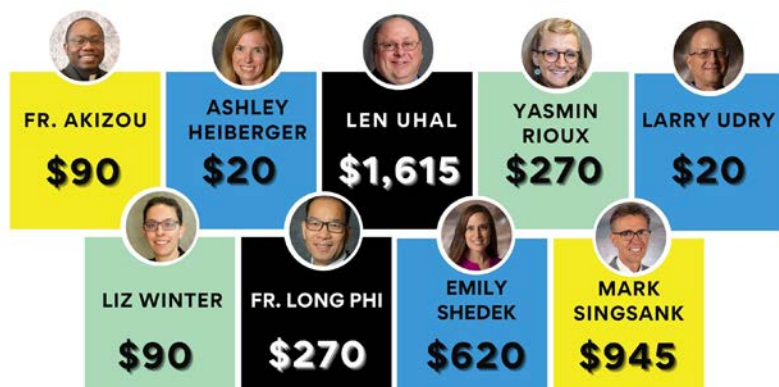
In addition to the action items above, we are looking at improved lighting to campus sidewalks and buildings. Lighting options and placement are being examined as part of our facility assessment study which is currently underway.

Cycle Challenge update



Support a Rider!

The DWC rider who raises the most money wins a gift card! Help out your favorite rider by donating today!



Together, these nine riders have already logged 350 miles and raised \$3,940 to support students at Divine Word College. There are just 11 days left for participants of the **Divine Word College Cycle Challenge** to ride their bikes and track their miles. The DWC employee who raises the most money in the challenge will win a \$25 gift card to Locals Coffee House & Bar. You can make a difference without even filling the tires in your bike with air! Support a rider today by clicking the link below:

CLICK HERE
TO DONATE



Thursday September 29 @ 1 PM

Tunes & Tales

A fun-filled concert for the young and young-at-heart.

The Adventures of Tom Thumb

by Ruth Crawford Seeger

Peter and the Wolf

by Sergei Prokofiev

Watch and listen as the stories come to life!



Exciting performance at DWC

Pianist, Evelyn Dias is joined by students in Dr. Joshua Young's Public Speaking class for an exciting performance of music for piano and narrator. Featuring The Adventures of Tom Thumb by American composer Ruth Crawford Seeger and an old favorite, Peter and the Wolf by Sergei Prokofiev. Watch and listen as the stories come to life!

Your eyes AND ears will enjoy this multi-dimensional presentation! Don't miss it!

Thursday, September 29 at 1 PM in the main chapel



JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION COUNCIL

International Sept Day of Peace 21

"How I Got Here, And What I Learned Along The Way"

Umaru Balde

Wednesday, September 21, 2022, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Alumni campus Center, Loras College, Loras Boulevard



Umaru Balde has a remarkable personal story to tell. Pressed into religious service as a child, he had experiences as a child slave, a child soldier, a political activist, an exile, and a refugee. He is now a doctoral candidate, vice president of the Iowa United Nations Association, and

recently became the new director of Dubuque's Multicultural Family Center.

Jody Williams, our originally scheduled speaker for this event, is unable to join us because of sudden family illness that requires her attention. We are grateful to Mr. Balde for making himself available at short notice.

Pray for Peace

Peace Vespers will be on Sunday, September 25 at 7:30 p.m. Sr. Agathe Bramkamp will give the reflection.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.



JEFF PUCCIO RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

Hobbies

Golfing and spending time with family

MOST LEGENDARY BAND

Red Hot Chili Peppers



Divine Word College
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



SURPRISING FACT

I was on a bowling scholarship at William Penn before stopping to help a family member with health issues

FAVORITE TV SHOW

Brooklyn Nine Nine

CANNOT RESIST

Ice Cream

FAVORITE MOVIE

The Mighty Ducks