

Don't Just Party.

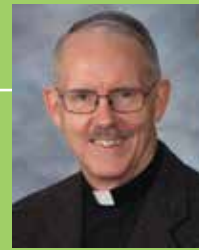
CELEBRATE!

There are plenty of parties at Divine Word College; after all, this is a COLLEGE! Sometimes I wonder, are there more parties or more classes here? A party is a great way to relax, to blow off steam and to have fun. A party can also help celebrate something. A birthday party for a five-year-old can be fun, but it's even more important for that child to be remembered, to be the center of attention, to be celebrated. DWC is a missionary college, so our parties often celebrate our missionary purpose.

Many times in the gospels, Jesus is at a party: the wedding feast at Cana, in Matthew's house after he was called to be a disciple, at the Last Supper, at the seashore after his resurrection and many more. Jesus knew how to celebrate the kingdom of God when he was at a party and we need to learn from him.

Party pictures fill the pages of this newsletter. Look closely; our parties exult in our diversity and our shared dedication to Jesus' mission. We may be having a good time but we are also celebrating God's Kingdom that is just over the horizon. Look even more closely and you may catch a glimpse of Jesus smiling there among us.

Fr. Tan



Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD

Getting Acquainted

DWC counselor provides guidance for students

Most college students experience a period of adjustment while they acclimate to new routines, environments and academic standards.

The same is true for DWC students but for many, they're also adapting to a new culture, discerning a call to vowed religious life or both.

DWC College Counselor Megan Sutton works with students to help them develop healthy strategies for dealing with all of the change.

"I'm here for them, to help them manage these things so they can be successful in their college careers," she said.

Cultural differences can be challenging for international students to navigate. Megan said students from some countries are uncomfortable acting in a manner that Americans consider assertive. She works to reassure them that approaching authority figures, like instructors, is not only acceptable but seen as favorable in the U.S. educational system.

She also helps students cope with homesickness, learn to ask for emotional support and identify their own strengths.

In some ways, Megan said DWC students are more equipped to cope with serious issues, such as depression, than many other college students.

"They have that faith base, so they draw on that and it brings them closer together and helps them in the transition process," she said.

In addition to counseling services, DWC offers students a whole network of support, including spiritual advisors, formators, formation groups and instructors.



Megan Sutton, DWC College Counselor



For more information about Divine Word College, call 563-876-3353, email info@dwci.edu, or visit: www.dwci.edu

