Our Students Discover America

A team of soon-to-graduate 8th graders visited six Midwestern colleges and universities in just three days during the 2018 Spring Discover America Tour. The trip is designed to introduce students to college life, and help ensure that the dream of attending college will become a reality for each student. First stop was Northwestern University in Evanston, IL where the 8th graders were greeted at a special welcome reception by Jabbar Bennett, Associate Provost and Chief Diversity Officer. Next, they traveled to Carthage College in Kenosha, WI and on to Viterbo University in La Crosse, WI.

During a lunch stop at the Chick-fil-A in Rochester, MN, store owner Matt Stockdale was so inspired by the HFM mission that he bought lunch for the entire group! The fourth stop was St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, followed by a shopping trip to the Mall of America, then on to the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, MN where students were hosted by the Black Student Union.

Rounding out the trip on the way back to Chicago was a stop at Marquette University in Milwaukee. One of the highlights was visiting with Ciara Palmer (daughter of HFM Board member John Palmer and his wife Katie), and with our very own Holy Family alumna, Chaterria Harris.

Students Star on Different Drummers Show

Eighth grade students Omar Allende and Caleb Watson-Wright along with Cheryl Collins, CEO, were recently featured on a segment of Different Drummers. The show is Chicago’s spotlight on contemporary values, interests, and talents of youth and young adults, produced at CBS Studios and available on YouTube.

Students spoke of Holy Family’s strong academics, welcoming environment, and the spiritual nature of Holy Family School. These are some of the reasons students achieve acceptance into strong, high-performing high schools. For example, Omar and Caleb both just received full scholarships to attend the prestigious Latin School of Chicago. Congratulations!

Different Drummers also highlighted Holy Family’s Peace Exchange program earlier this year. Program Manager Henry Cervantes, Holy Family School alumna Jaylen McBride (now a senior at Fenwick High School and a member of the Peace Exchange) and Peace Builder Jailene Valenzuela talked with the show’s host about the training they received in The Peace Exchange program, including their recent trip to India to study peace.
HOLY FAMILY STUDENTS WELCOME NEW PRINCIPAL

Students and their parents warmly greeted the newly appointed principal of Holy Family School, Dr. Candace Smith, who joins us this summer to lead the educational team at the school. This is an exciting time as Principal Cheryl Collins steps into the role of Chief Executive Officer of Holy Family Ministries. “Candace brings a great deal of experience to our school regarding curriculum, teacher development and student improvement,” said Cheryl. “She also brings heart to our school. She is a woman of faith and believes that her purpose is to serve children and families from underserved neighborhoods.”

Dr. Smith comes to Holy Family with fourteen years of experience, the most recent as Assistant Principal at the Lansing School District. She looks forward to meeting donors and friends of Holy Family throughout the year at school events, benefit events and chapel celebrations. Welcome Dr. Smith!

SPOTLIGHT ON CHURCH PARTNERS

For the 40 days of Lent, the congregation of Lutheran Church of the Ascension in Northfield once again created a unique fundraising initiative for Holy Family students during their 2018 Holy Family Lenten Challenge. Sunday services featured visits from CEO Cheryl Collins, Chaplain Leslie Hunter, CDO & Church Outreach Director Cynthia Schmidt, Holy Family School alum Jaylen McBride, and Rev. Ronald Martin, the father of two of our alumni, and staff member at Holy Family School.

The Challenge consisted of various special events and raised nearly $30,000 for student scholarships, the largest single congregational gift that Holy Family has ever received. We extend deep appreciation to Rev. JoAnn Post and all the members who generously supported and prayed for Holy Family Ministries during the 2018 Challenge. If your church is interested in partnering with Holy Family in special ways throughout the year, send your request or idea to cschmidt@hfm.org.

DR. SEUSS DAY!

More than fifty guests joined our children in March for the much-beloved Dr. Seuss Day. Guests read books to Holy Family students as part of Read Across America, a National Education Association initiative that encourages children to develop a love of literature. Pictured with our young students:

Left: Jan Schwanke  Center: Carol Freidheim  Right: Laurie Badovinac

CHARITY NAVIGATOR AND GUIDESTAR

We are proud to announce Holy Family Ministries has earned our fifth consecutive annual 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. This is their highest possible rating, indicating that Holy Family exceeds industry standards.

We once again earned GuideStar’s Platinum Seal of Transparency—their newest and highest level of recognition. GuideStar USA is the world’s largest information service focusing on nonprofit organizations. We couldn’t have received these top ratings without you. Thank you!

Join Our Volunteer Team

Men and women needed! Flexible, long term and short term opportunities. Have fun, do good! Email Margaret for details mflanagan@hfm.org.

Please Donate Your Gently Used Items

FURNITURE • HOUSEWARES • HOME DÉCOR • ADULT CLOTHING • JEWELRY • ACCESSORIES

Furniture Pickup Service

For information, please send pictures and details to donate@hfm.org or call the store at 847-749-2928.

Proceeds support Holy Family’s school and youth programs.
On Saturday, April 21st, Holy Family Ministries held its very successful 2018 Reach for the Stars Spring Benefit. The new venue was the lovely and historic Glen View Club, which overflowed with generosity and joy as more than 250 guests enjoyed a cocktail reception and a five-star dinner in the beautiful dining room. The stars of the night were the students of Holy Family. Guests enjoyed a memorable rendition of *Let There Be Music,* sung acapella by the Holy Family Ensemble. School alumna Jaylen McBride, now a senior at Fenwick High School and a current member of the Holy Family Peace Exchange program, touched the audience with her inspirational keynote.

Jaylen shared about the life changing impact Holy Family had on her life. “At Holy Family I learned what it meant to be a great student and a great person. My teachers and the faculty became family because they cared about my education and my well being. Holy Family prepared me for high school, and the world.”

Special thanks to our 2018 Honorary Chairs for hosting the event (pictured above) and our hard working Benefit Committee, all who helped fill the room to capacity, and raise $255,000 for Holy Family student scholarships!

The 2018 Benefit Committee included Jan Leverenz (Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Northfield), Jeanne Nelson (Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Lincolnshire), Cindi Rachowicz and Ann Wagner (St. John’s Lutheran Church, Northfield), Paula Selvig and Phyllis Treff (Trinity Lutheran Church, Evanston), Sharon D’Arcy, Joan Dodson, Jane Eaton, Cindy Macfarland, Terri Montgomery, Carrie Smart, and Emily Voit (Church of the Holy Comforter, Kenilworth). The tireless dedication of the entire Spring Benefit committee made this the most successful Spring Benefit to date! Thank you one and all!

**SPOTLIGHT ON GIVING**

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**FEATURED CHURCH PARTNER**

**St. Helen’s Guild-Church of the Holy Comforter - Episcopal**

For nearly a decade St. Helen’s Guild - Church of the Holy Comforter in Kenilworth has supported our children with generosity and enthusiasm. In clear demonstration of what is possible when friends come together for a cause, these special friends work year-round to help our children. They continually utilize individual and collective networks and resources for the good of Holy Family. First established to support St Gregory Episcopal School, today St. Helen’s Guild and Church of the Holy Comforter are dedicated to the children of Holy Family School. This unique partnership showcases the “call to common mission” encouraged by Bishop Jeffery Lee and Bishop Wayne Miller for the Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America to work together for strong, faith-based community outreach, a commitment formalized in 2000.

Thank you St. Helen’s Guild!
Visit us at www.hfm.org

The Beacon
A newsletter published for friends and supporters of Holy Family Ministries
Editor: Cynthia L. Schmidt
Project Manager: Jan Werwath
Design: Mary Fawcett
Eric Draut, Interim Chief Executive Officer
Cheryl Collins, Principal, Holy Family School and CEO Elect
Cynthia Schmidt, Chief Development Officer
Deana Spencer, Director, Little Learners Academy
Adrienne Hunter, Manager, Adventures In Learning

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Ways to Give

— DONATIONS —
Tax deductible contributions can be sent by mail (address below), or make an online gift at www.hfm.org/donate

— MATCHING GIFTS —
Many companies match an employee’s donation to charitable organizations. Please ask your employer if there is a matching gifts program at your workplace.

— GIFTS OF STOCK —
Gifts of stock are easily transferred.

— HOLY FAMILY FOREVER —
A bequest is a gift made by naming Holy Family Ministries as a beneficiary in your will. There are also many other ways to create a planned gift for Holy Family.

— THRIVENT FINANCIAL CHOICE DOLLARS® —
Choice Dollars charitable grant funds can make a world of difference to Holy Family Ministries. By directing Choice Dollars, eligible Thrivent members recommend where they feel Thrivent should distribute a portion of its charitable grant funds. Directing Choice Dollars is easy. Simply go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions.

For more information on giving please contact
Cynthia L. Schmidt CFRE, Chief Development Officer
cschmidt@hfm.org

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Our Business / Development Office address is: Holy Family Ministries, 3225 Arnold Lane, Northbrook, IL 60062