



Jesuit Retreat House
4800 Fahrwald Road
Oshkosh, WI 54902

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The Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, fosters spiritual enrichment rooted in the Gospels, the Catholic tradition and the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Our ministry is dedicated to creating a rich variety of retreat experiences and providing an atmosphere of quiet, peace and prayer in which men and women of all faiths are encouraged to discover and respond generously to God's personal invitation to wholeness and holiness.

www.JesuitRetreatHouse.org

Former JRH director dies

We remember **Fr. Michael Morrison, S.J.**, director of the Jesuit Retreat House from March 19, 2001 to May 31, 2003, who passed away May 24, 2018, at the St. Camillus Jesuit Community in Wauwatosa, WI. He was 81.

Fr. Morrison already was familiar with the JRH grounds and facilities when he came as director because he began his Jesuit life here in 1955 when it served as the novitiate for the Wisconsin Province of the Society of Jesus. His return in 2001 was a stormy one, however, because after his arrival more than 40 trees on the grounds were uprooted by a wind and rain-storm. The storm, June 11, 2001, also destroyed the swimming dock and the Highway 45 JRH sign.



Fr. Morrison oversaw the replanting of trees the next spring, installation of a new dock and Highway 45 sign, the addition of handicapped accessible doors, Loyola building bathroom improvements, the completion of repairs and replacement of more than 500 roof tiles on the Loyola building, and the streamlining of the retreat house budget process.

Fr. Morrison's primary ministry as a Jesuit was as a history professor, and later as president of Creighton University, Omaha, from 1981-2000, and he returned to teaching when he left Oshkosh, joining the faculty at Marquette University until 2010 when he joined the St. Camillus Jesuit Community due to ill health.

Lightning strike causes damage

At approximately 3:20 PM Sunday, July 1, a lightning strike close to the Jesuit Retreat House burned out and compromised nearly all of our computer boards/systems. Fr. Gene Donahue was home at the time and alerted Facilities and Grounds Manager Chuck Linde who began the slow work of identifying what was affected by the powerful electrical surge.



Sister Susan Kusz, SND, who was heading up the five-day directed retreat beginning the next afternoon, worked with the rest of the staff to welcome retreatants and ensure their comfort while here, so the retreat could go forward as scheduled. Repairs that needed to be done to keep the retreat going were completed within a matter of days, and the other repairs that could wait were completed during the EAA hiatus, July 20-August 1.

Among the damage: fire alarm system, exterior door card access, our fiber optics cable, HVAC controls, Manresa internet and WIFI, Loyola main door operator, back-up generator, main file server for office computers, outdoor camera system, bell chimes, and some telephones.

We will be filing an insurance claim to cover the cost of all of these repairs.

Living up to our name

When I need to jot down some information, a reminder, or a phone message, the name cards that retreatants turn in when they leave come in handy. It saves buying post-it notes; it helps me learn the names and recall the faces of all of the retreatants who make this a sacred place; and, most importantly, it triggers a prayer for them by name.

When teaching I sometimes asked students (if they didn't know already) to find out how and why they were given their name, and to ask their parents about it. They returned excited by what their parents had told them, because it gave their name a significance and meaning that had been lacking.

Names are on my mind because the anniversary of my baptism (August 9) and the feast day (July 25) for St. Christopher and St. James (middle name) were so recent. If my siblings had their say my name would have been Anthony, but the proximity of my birth (July 30) to the feast of SS Christopher and James, and the legacy of my great-grandfather, C.J. Manahan, eased my parents' choice.

I knew I had been named after a great-grandfather, but when I learned in grade school that Christopher in Greek means "Christ-bearer" an overpowering thought I had was that anyone who met me expected me to be like Christ. Early on I tried to live up to that name as best I could, but it was a lot of responsibility. As time went on I realized that few people expected to see Christ in me just because my name was Christopher.

Yet, the name Christian given to those following Christ is considered important enough to include in the Acts of Apostles (11:25-26):

"Then [Barnabas] went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a large number of people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians."

The entire Christian Scriptures focus on how to live up to that name, whether in the beatitudes, the parables, the teachings, and actions of Christ, or the further lessons and models provided by the Acts of the Apostles and early Church letters. We join together in retreat, whether weekend preached retreats or summer directed retreats, to delve into the significance and meaning of following Christ in our lives today. It is a lot of responsibility, but one that we do not carry alone. God the Trinity, the pilgrim Church, the people around us, and the gifts within us help us live up to our name: Christian.



Fr. Chris Manahan, S.J.

Fr. Christopher J. Manahan, S.J.
Director

Friendraiser evenings

History / Tour / Dinner / Ministry Overview
Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago –
Oshkosh Wisconsin

These are casual friendraiser evenings for a small number of people (10 to 12 guests) who have never experienced the Jesuit Retreat House and would like to know more about our historical location, our facilities, our silent retreat ministry and enjoy a delicious dinner prepared by our talented Chef Jeff.

These are NOT fundraisers!

Evening Agenda:

- 5:00 pm – Guests Arrival / Welcome –
Fr. Chris / Sr. Susan / Dcn. John
- 5:15 pm – Welcome & Historical Overview –
Dcn. John / Fr. Chris
- 5:30 pm – Guided Tour – Dcn. John / Fr. Chris
- 6:30 pm – Buffet Dinner – Chef Jeff
- 7:15 pm – Mission / Vision / Ministry Overview –
Fr. Chris / Sr. Susan
- 7:45 pm – Wrap-up & Departure – Dcn. John

Upcoming Friendraiser Evenings

- 2018
- Wednesday, September 19, 2018
 - Wednesday, October 17, 2018
 - Wednesday, November 14, 2018
- 2019
- Wednesday, February 20, 2019
 - Wednesday, March 20, 2019
 - Wednesday, April 24, 2019

Please share this opportunity with friends and have them contact Deacon John Ingala at the retreat house by email deaconji@gmail.com or (920) 230-6992.

In Memoriam

Fr. Wally Stohrer, S.J., 88, died July 14, at St. Camillus Jesuit Community in Wauwatosa.

He taught philosophy from 1972-2010 at Marquette University, and for several years served as a summer retreat director here.



Meet the new Board of Directors of the Jesuit Retreat House

The Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago is among many ministries of the U.S.A. Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), and has been staffed with Jesuit priests and brothers since its beginning in 1961. The province asked us earlier this year to align our structure of governance with the other retreat houses in the province by forming a Board of Directors.

Many of the new Board of Directors already have been serving on the informal Advisory Council that has served our needs over the past several years. Their time of service on the Advisory Council is counted when determining when their term on the Board of Directors is complete. (Members are allowed to serve two consecutive terms.)

Thank you to all of the retreatants who have said “yes” to serving on our Board of Directors:



Carol Atwell Ackels, Dallas, Texas, is director of the Ignatian Spirituality Institute in Dallas, and directs weekend preached retreats and five-day and eight-day summer retreats at JRH. Her work at the Institute includes offering the Spiritual Exercises, Ignatian spiritual direction, and forming others called to this ministry. She and her husband Henry have five adult children and two grandchildren. In addition to her ministry and chaotic family fun, she enjoys reading, good coffee shops, long walks in cool weather. (1st term, ends June 2021)



Catherine Androyna, Milwaukee, Catherine Androyna, RN, ADN, has been a retreatant here since 1996. Catherine attributes her spiritual growth and connection to God to JRH. She enjoys spending time with family and traveling, especially with her grandchildren, Courtney, Camryn and Leland. She currently works at Froedtert Hospital as a Transplant Coordinator providing nursing services to more than 200 post-transplant kidney patients. (1st term, ends June 2021)



Lisa Durocher, Menasha, has 10 years of experience with JRH retreats. Raised Episcopalian, she converted 20 years ago and has been a member of St. Margaret Mary's in Neenah since that time. She and husband Dennis have two married sons, ages 28 and 30. (1st term, ends June 2021)



Mark Frederick, Brookfield, a member of St. Joseph's in Wauwatosa, has come on retreat since 1984 when his future father-in-law Art Fink made it a pre-condition before he could marry Debbie, Art's daughter. Debbie and the retreats have been a double blessing for him. He said he “can't say enough about how leading an examined life has helped me and I hope many other people find Oshkosh and the spiritual clarity it brings to our lives.” (2nd term, ends June 2019)



Glenn Higgins, came to JRH in 2014 from Appleton, where he and his wife, Anne (Salm) Higgins, and their family have enjoyed being involved with numerous community groups, especially St. Mary Parish and the Xavier Catholic Schools system. They have three adult children – Sarah, Casey and Daniel – and one grandchild, Cecilia. He is the owner of EDCi, a technology firm, and its sister company, Electroline, Inc. A lifelong sports guy – as player, coach, referee, and fan – he invites you to join him in a game of pickleball anytime you're in Appleton! (1st term, June 2020)



Ruth Ann Hoenick, Slinger, has been coming to JRH for 26 years. Ruth is a wife, mother, grandmother and retired educator, with more than 30 years of experience at all levels of education (kindergarten through graduate school). She currently is participating in spiritual direction training with hopes of walking with others in their spiritual journeys and facilitating retreats. (2nd term, ends June 2019)

Dan Kolb, Brookfield, has attended retreats at JRH for seven years. He reports that he has been married to “my best friend” Liz for 31 years, and they have four “wonderful children.” He is a member of St. John Vianney Parish and serves as an Investment Advisor with RBC Wealth Management. His pastimes are golfing, fishing, skiing and traveling. (2nd term, ends June 2020)



William K. Reilley, Brookfield, is CEO of Lakeside International Trucks and Badgerland Idealease. He and his wife Patricia have two children, both married, and nine grandchildren, all living in Brookfield. He has been coming to JRH for more than 25 years. Among his other board commitments, he is most grateful to be a past chair and current member of the board for St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care in Milwaukee, which specializes in adult and child day services in a safe, homelike intergenerational setting. (2nd term, ends June 2019)



Richard J Suslick, Rotonda West, Florida, has been attending retreats since 1965, with more than 20 retreats under his belt. He is a semi-retired consultant and engineer in the energy management field. He and his wife Dawn have three children and 12 grandchildren. His interests include “music, the outdoors, sports (especially Badgers and Packers), and being purposeful and doing almost anything with my hands.” (1st term, ends June 2020)



Tim Weiss, Wauwatosa, has been coming to the Jesuit Retreat House since 2003. He and his wife Melissa have two children, Andrew, 8, and Lexi, 5, who keep Tim and Melissa busy and joyful with their activities and interests. The family belongs to St. Jude's in Wauwatosa.



Ex-Officio Members

Fr. Gene Donahue, S.J., Oshkosh, is superior of the Jesuit Community at the Jesuit Retreat House. He has been an assistant director at JRH since 2007. He celebrated his 60th year as a Jesuit in 2018. (With vote)



Fr. Chris Manahan, S.J., Oshkosh, was missioned to Oshkosh by the Jesuit provincial in September 2014, and succeeded Fr. John Schwantes in January 2015 as president and executive director of the Jesuit Retreat House of Oshkosh, Inc. He entered the Jesuits in 1993. (With vote)



Jordan Skarr, Chicago, had his first eight-day retreat at JRH in 2010. He works as part of the Jesuit Midwest Province staff in support of many retreat houses and ministries of the Spiritual Exercises in the province. With three small children at home, he is aware that his wife Megan is fast-tracked for sainthood by letting him travel so frequently. (Without vote)



Home Stretch

Where we began

Over the last three years, through the generosity of our retreatants, families and friends, the retreat house has been able to paydown over \$2 million dollars on our remaining mortgage.

Rounding the bases

We've rounded second base and heading for third. We hope and pray that by Christmas 2018 the retreat house will secure the final dollars needed to payoff, burn the mortgage and be debt free.

What we need to reach home

As of this newsletter, our current mortgage balance is \$422,824. Outstanding pledges from individual retreatants, families and friends added to our current mortgage savings account equals approximately \$203,730. Therefore, we need to secure an additional \$219,094 to become debt free!

Will you help?

Use the enclosed donor envelope to make a one-time gift or contact Deacon John Ingala in the Development Office at (920) 230-6992 or deaconji@gmail.com to make a two-year pledge.

Please join us on this Home Stretch run!



Remembering Mike Weber

Mike Weber, 68, passed away on February 11, 2018. Mike spent 29 years working as our groundskeeper caring for these sacred grounds. Through the generosity of Mike's family and friends, a new wooden swing was purchased and installed this spring nestled among the Weber Family Maple Grove on the JRH property. The plaque on the swing quotes words Mike lived by:

“If I am faithful in doing the work that God gives me, I am successful in His eyes.”