A Passion to Burn Bright

“Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared.” ~Buddha

Through the past three years, I have come to see God in all that is the University of Scranton. From serving the community to strolling down the commons, from hanging with friends to swimming at the lake, God certainly shines bright throughout the Scranton campus. Most recently, I saw the light of God in forty-three freshmen and their eight leaders on FIRST, Freshmen Involved in Reflective Service Together, a service immersion for incoming freshmen the week before school begins. This year, I had the privilege to be the team leader and was able to “oversee” most activities and service. These fifty-one students, with pure selflessness, went out into the city of Scranton and spread happiness at sites like the Jewish Home and North Scranton Head Start I. I have never been more impressed by a group of individuals than I was with these fifty-one students. We can all learn from these students; none knew exactly what they signed up for, but they took the plunge and flourished.

They were doing God’s work and they were doing it well.

The University of Scranton IS happiness. Next time you take a stroll on the commons or sit on the DeNaples patio, pay close attention to the people around you and you will know exactly what I mean. Better yet, go to Madonna Della Strada Chapel for an evening mass, or step foot on DeNaples 2nd floor to see the good right in front of you. In all of these places, you will see the University community thriving and living out the Jesuit ideals.

With a fresh year ahead, let us remember to take some time to step back and really see the happiness that surrounds our lives. The Thanksgiving holiday is two months away, but it is never too early to realize what you are truly thankful for. With that said, I am thankful for the Scranton community and all of those who contribute so much of their time and efforts to spreading happiness.

During this academic year, I challenge you to this task: be the brightest candle that you can be, be that bright shining candle that will light every candle, new and familiar, that you see. Remember, at times, life may send a little wind to come blow out your bright shining light, but be strong, learn to laugh during life’s obstacles, and live to spread your blessed HAPPINESS!

“Unless a life is lived for others, it is not worthwhile.” –Mother Teresa

David Hopp
Class of 2012
Today our prime educational objective must be to form men-and-women-for-others; men and women who will live not for themselves but for God and his Christ - for the God-man who lived and died for all the world; men and women who cannot even conceive of love of God which does not include love for the least of their neighbors; men and women completely convinced that love of God which does not issue in justice for others is a farce.”

Pedro Arrupe, S.J., 28th Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Valencia, Spain, 1973

The Community Outreach Office provides information on Volunteer Opportunities for individuals, groups, clubs, and residence hall floors. Our office is located in The DeNaples Center, Room 205B, and our webpage is www.scranton.edu/volunteers. We are also on Facebook! Like Us!

Check out our new webpage at www.scranton.edu/volunteers for a complete list of current opportunities, agency information, upcoming events and more!

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the annual Volunteer and Service Fair September 13th from 11am-1pm in the Ballroom of DeNaples! Meet over 60 local non-profits and pick the placement you enjoy for your service work this semester!

American Diabetes Association: Step Out Walk to Stop Diabetes. They need volunteers on Sunday, October 30th from 11:30am-4pm to help set up on the day of the event, decorate the haunted tents for the trick or treat trail. Contact Dawn Fernandez at dfernandez@diabetes.org or 888.342.2383 x4625

American Lung Association: Fight for Air Walk. Volunteers would do set up, refreshments, registration table, kids table with face painting and kiddie’s tattoos and juggling, take pictures, musicians, artists encouraged to interact with families, tear down of event. Saturday October 8 from 8am to 12pm at Nay Aug Park. Contact Donna Ray-Reifler at dreifler@lunginfo.org or call 570-823-2212

Bread Basket of NEPA: Food Pantry Volunteers – 2.5 hours weekly, monthly at mid-day and Non-Perishable Inventory Team Members – mid-day, once a month. Contact Sandra Roberts, 570-343-2324, T, W and Thursday. Please leave your name and number and a phone call will be returned to you.

EFFORT: University of Scranton’s Excessive Food for Others Recovery Team. Help pick up (Mon, Thurs evenings, Fri mornings) food from local vendors and deliver (Tues, Fri mornings) to local food pantries and shelters. Your own car or able to drive our service van (over 19 and certified only). Contact Kathleen Lavelle at lavellek3@scranton.edu or stop by The Community Outreach Office DeNaples 205B.

Griffin Pond Animal Shelter: Ongoing, dog walkers (must be 18 years old to walk dogs), Sunday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m., unlimited volunteers. Ongoing, cat food and cat litter drive organizers. Contact: Beverly Bright, 585-0516.

Junior Achievement: Taste of Success Gourmet Fundraiser, Thursday, October 6, 2011. Contact Barbara Vitcosky 570-602-3600

Komen for Cure - help control traffic for race day, Saturday September 10 from 7:30am to 10:30am. Downtown Scranton. Contact Michele Tierney at mmtierney@comcast.net or call 570-881-7271

Pet Therapy: Join the Community Outreach Office for a day for the dogs on Wednesday September 28 (rain date Thursday) on the Dionne Green and Patio. Have participants sign waivers, set up the barriers, fill water bowls, assist dog handlers. 10 volunteers needed. 11am-1pm. Contact Ellen Judge to sign up at judgee2@scranton.edu.
**Is God Calling Me?**

Have you been wondering if you are called to service to God and the Church through a vocation to Religious Life? If so, and you are a single, Catholic woman between the ages of 19 and 25 come and join us for a Women’s Discernment Group. This group is intended for women just beginning to question this call in her life.

Join us on Tuesday, September 13 from 7-9pm at the IHM Center, located on Marywood’s campus. Topic for this month is Discernment.

We will also meet on the following dates: Nov. 8, Jan. 13, Feb. 9 and April 19.

Register at: vocationinfo@mercymidatlantic.org or harkir@sistersofihm.org.

Questions: please contact Sister Carol Tropiano, RSM at tropianoc2@scranton.edu.

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**Spicing Up Sophomore Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scrantastic Salad</th>
<th>Connections: A Retreat for Freshman</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Perfect combination of friends, food, fun, faith &amp; great memories</td>
<td><strong>Connections</strong> is a retreat created for first year students to help with the transition to college life. It begins on Friday at 4:30 pm and ends on Saturday evening. Transportation to and from our retreat center at Chapman Lake will be provided. Cost is $10. <strong>Connections</strong> will be offered on the following dates: October 7-8, October 21-22, October 28-29.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Iggy’s Royal Rib Eye</strong></td>
<td>To register for <strong>Connections</strong> come to the University Ministries Office located in the DeNaples Center, second floor at the beginning of the Fall Semester with $10 cash or on your Royal Card.</td>
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<tr>
<td>An Authentic relationship with God you can sink your teeth into</td>
<td>For more information contact Amy Hoegen in University Ministries at (570) 941-5510 or <a href="mailto:hoegena2@scranton.edu">hoegena2@scranton.edu</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christian Cake</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christian Cake</strong> is a Retreat created BY Sophomores FOR Sophomores that begins and ends on campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Generous helping of the Body of Christ (a.k.a. Eucharist)</td>
<td>Begins Sat. Oct 8th @ 5:00PM and concludes @ 8:00PM on Sun. Oct. 9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A brand new RETREAT created BY Sophomores FOR Sophomores that begins and ends on campus</td>
<td><strong>Reservations Required: Come to University Ministries 2nd Floor DeNaples before Sept. 30th</strong></td>
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**Time-Out!**

**An Experience for Men**

**Sept. 30th – Oct. 1st**

(Family weekend)

- Chapman Lake Retreat Center
- Lackawanna State Park

**Time-out! for...**

- Sports
- Hiking
- Good Food
- God

“Check-in” at University Ministries

Space is limited

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**JUSTICEplus RETREAT**

**October 14 – 18, 2011**

**Fall Break**

An over-night at Chapman Lake Retreat Center plus service!

*A justice-based retreat* to transform your heart, mind and soul, followed by three days of service through the Romero Center in Camden, NJ

Stop in to University Ministries today to sign-up for JUSTICEplus
### Weekly Collection

This week’s collection will be given to "Families of September 11" - a non profit organization which supports victims family members, survivors and others affected by the events of 9/11.

Last week’s collection of $395 was given to Local Hurricane relief efforts.

### Sunday Mass Presiders

**Sunday, September 11**
- 7:00PM: Fr. Malloy, SJ
- 9:30PM: Malloy, SJ

**Sunday, September 18**
- 11:00 AM Fr. Bellafiore, SJ
- 7:00PM: Fr. Sweeney, SJ
- 9:30PM: Fr. Sable, SJ

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### Rock Retreat

**ROCK RETREAT**

**The ULTIMATE Road-trip**

**OCTOBER 15TH – 18TH**

**Fall Break**

**Tickets on sale**

7:00 a.m. Sept. 19th in University Ministries

Space is VERY limited.

Cost: $99

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### UNIVERSITY MINISTRIES, DeNaples Student Center 200

570-941-7419

[www.scranton.edu/ministry](http://www.scranton.edu/ministry)

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