

## **FULCRUMNEWS**

Fulcrum Foundation's Triannual Newsletter | Summer 2017

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### Strong Connections, Strong Schools

Some of the very best teaching and learning today is supported by innovative technology and on-line resources—tools that help teachers challenge their students to reach their highest and fullest potential. Access to these great learning tools requires fast and reliable connections to the internet.

No one knows this better than Tom and Jan O'Callahan. Tom, a retired Boeing IT engineer and current volunteer in the Office for Catholic Schools, and Jan, a Fulcrum Trustee, are the driving force behind one of Fulcrum's newest programs: the IT Network Modernization Fund. This new IT program, in partnership with the Office for Catholic Schools and through partial funding from the Federal Government, will support the design and installation of the highest quality technology to optimize internet

access in all Catholic elementary schools throughout the Archdiocese of Seattle by 2020.

Queen of Angels Catholic School (Q of A) in Port Angeles, and St. Therese Catholic Academy in Seattle (both pictured above) are perfect examples of how this new program works. Beginning in 2015, Ann Austinprincipal at Q of A—began working with Tom and Jan to replace the old copper wiring that had been feeding internet to the building and install wireless internet to ensure that every student could participate in on-line learning resources and assessments. By 2017, and thanks to this new partnership, Q of A has wireless access for the entire school campus and is connected to the internet through fiber optic cabling—the very fastest connection possible. What's more, Q of A qualifies for a 70% discount on the fiber optic connection through the Federal e-Rate program, and is now paying less for internet than when they had the old copper wiring.

It takes a lot of work to get to where Q of A is today, and Tom and Jan have been leading the charge. Just since January of 2017, the O'Callahans and a small volunteer task force have archived over 5,000 project documents, traveled to over 30 school visits, received and sent over 900 emails, and logged over 1,000 phone calls all in support of this new program.

Ann Austin, reflecting on all that Tom and Jan and this new program have meant to Queen of Angels Catholic School, recently said, "The O'Callahans have been a blessing to our school and instrumental to our success." We simply couldn't agree more—these strong connections go well beyond technology infrastructure and the internet.

To learn more about Fulcrum's new IT Fund and Program contact Conne Bruce, Advancement Director, at conne.bruce@fulcrumfoundation.org or 206.748.7989.





### Chairman's Circle Dinner May 18, 2017

The Chairman's Circle Dinner attained new heights at the Museum of Flight, honoring those who support Fulcrum at a significant level, as well as the members of the Fulcrum Legacy Society. The evening began with docent led tours through the Great Gallery.

Those attending heard the inspirational story of Seton Catholic High School through the voice of Tricia Roscoe, President. Seton opened its doors in 2009, and after years of planning, moved into their new building and home in the fall of 2016. Tricia spoke of the importance of the Fulcrum partnership, "Fulcrum is the kind of partner that can lift up an entire community and provide the

leverage to make possible what seems impossible."

Tony Audino, Chair of the Board of Trustees, spoke to Tricia's commitment and the important role of Fulcrum now and in the future: "It's the kind of work we do...developing and funding strategic initiatives that will uplift children, families and schools."

The evening concluded with a personal testimony from Joe (Fulcrum Trustee) and Jenn Sprague, about the importance of Catholic education and their support for Fulcrum's exciting vision and plan to *uplift* children, families, and the entire Catholic school community.











### **Amici Wrap Up**

Amici had an enthusiastic response to the recent Theology on Tap night in May. The speaker for the night was Fr. Bryan Dolejsi, Pastor at St. Benedict Parish and Director of Vocations for the Archdiocese. He spoke to a packed room of young professionals about his top 10 ways for discerning God's will. Amici is excited to provide more opportunities like this for sharing in faith and fellowship to grow a strong community of young professionals who are actively engaged in Fulcrum's mission.

This year, Amici's partnership with St. Mark Parish School provided helping hands through service events to clean out and organize several rooms. In addition, Amici events, like the popular Trivia Night, raised funds to purchase tables and chairs for the St. Mark STEAM lab (for science, technology, engineering, art and math).



The Amici After Party, immediately following the Celebration of Light, was another great success with new members joining the Amici group for this fun tradition. Events like this, including Trivia Night and Kick Ball Tournament, are great venues in which to network with other young professionals in the area.

Interested in Amici? Please email David Redenbaugh, Amici Chair, at amici@fulcrumfoundation.org.

Discover more on Amici's webpage at fulcrumfoundation.org/get-involved/amici





facebook.com/amiciseattle instagram.com/amici\_fulcrum.







## Spotlight on a Leader

Vince McGovern, Principal Our Lady of the Lake Parish School, Seattle



#### **Making Saints**

Over the course of the school year, one can only imagine that we see both saintly and not so saintly behavior from our students.

Maturation is a process marked by decisions made over years, not days or weeks. *The business of Catholic education is making saints*, and like the official process for declaring saints of the Church, this process is a slow one done over time and through the combined efforts of schools and families; eventually, kids do become saints.

In our schools, there are future saints like Ignatius of Loyola and Therese of Lisieux who will teach us how to pray on the road or in our cells, or Francis Xavier and Frances Cabrini who bring God with them to all corners of the earth. Some of these holy women and men lacked piety and restraint early in their lives, but through the intersession of the Holy Spirit, they grew close to God and closer to saintliness. Our job, as Catholic educators, parents, parishioners and supporters is to help these kids learn the way to sainthood out of a greater desire to serve others.

The road to sainthood has obstacles everywhere, which is why we are blessed to have teachers who see their job as a vocation. These teachers help students discover the presence of God within them, nourished by baptism and fed by the Eucharist. Of all the vocational callings within the Church, perhaps few are as worthy of canonization as those teachers faced with the prospects of an early Easter, long spring, incessant rainy day recesses and a class of 30 future saints. This is the frontline of Catholic education and without doubt, the place where saintliness is born.

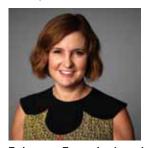
For 40 years, I've been fortunate enough to be part of Catholic schools. I have been on the receiving end of the generosity of others, people I never knew but who, in their own hearts, believed in Catholic education. These individuals—or saints as I call them—paved the way for kids like me to be part of a school that focused on faith as well as academics. My service and involvement in Catholic education is a way that I get to pay it forward and help create the next generation of saintly leaders in service to the Church and world.



### **Fulcrum Foundation Committee Focus**

In recent issues we have highlighted the great work of the committees of the Board of Trustees. In this issue we honor a long-time committee member who will be completing her service as a Trustee and committee chair.

## **Development Committee**Mary Lee, *Chair*



Over twelve years ago, Mary Lee and her husband, Michael Lee, were invited to learn more about the newly formed

Fulcrum Foundation. In July, Mary will complete her maximum term of service to the Board of Trustees, and we are so grateful. As Mary completes her tenure as a Trustee, we want to publicly thank her for all she has done for and meant to Fulcrum. She and Mike chaired the first Capital Campaign, *Embracing Our Legacy*, which set Fulcrum on a solid foundation and its current, successful trajectory. Mary has

been a driving force for Fulcrum's fundraising efforts, first serving on and then chairing the Development Committee since 2005. Mary's extraordinary leadership continues to inspire us to strive for even more.

Mary, with the grace and gratitude that are characteristic of her leadership, shared the following reflection on her experience with Fulcrum. "I want to thank Fr. Stephen Rowan for inviting me to be a part of the Fulcrum family. It has been my greatest honor to serve the families and schools of the Seattle Archdiocese. To witness the incredible sacrifice of the Fulcrum donors and the families who are recipients of our funds, has been a privilege that will inspire me forever."



Above: Mary with husband Mike Lee in 2005, as Chairs of Fulcrum's first Capital Campaign; upper right: Mary speaking at Fulcrum's Legacy Luncheon 2013; right: with Jeanne Marie Lee at the Chairman's Circle Dinner 2015.







## School Tour St. Therese Catholic Academy

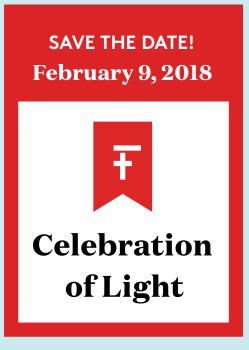
On April 27<sup>th</sup>, friends of Fulcrum enjoyed a tour of St. Therese Catholic Academy. School Principal, Matt DeBoer, guided the tour and shared the school's innovative programs and unique approach to learning. It was a fun opportunity to spend the morning with the students and to see Fulcrum's investment in action.



# Celebration of Light Makes the List!

The Fulcrum Foundation's Celebration of Light gala was ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> by the Puget Sound Business Journal for funds raised in a regional Benefit Event in 2016. This list is published annually as part of the PSBJ's comprehensive Book of Lists.

Fulcrum is proud to be listed again among the Northwest's most prominent nonprofit organizations.





Thank you to all of the Celebration of Light supporters and sponsors who recognize the value of Catholic education and make it possible for Fulcrum to expand the excellence and accessibility of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Seattle.

We are now accepting sponsorships for the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Celebration of Light gala.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact Stephanie Singler, Engagement Manager, at stephanie.singler@fulcrumfoundation.org or 206.219.5811.

Remember to *Like, Share* and *Follow* Fulcrum on social media!









