

**Teens Growing In
Faith (TGIF)
Youth Ministry**

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TGIF Leadership Team

- Mike Robinson
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- Cathy Czaplicki
- Kim Hamila
- Jason Heiss
- David Jack
- Mike Leisure
- Craig Mauer
- Lauren Miller
- Alicia Pavelecky
- Regina Strauss
- Erin Vanni
- Mary Erin Vrhovnik
- Lauren Znidarsic



**TGIF Adult
Support Team**

- Mary Lou Beers
- Terri Eubanks
- Jim Galloway
- Mary Gracco
- Jason Gresko
- Karen Grife
- Ken Heiss
- Cindy Heiss
- Bill Manieri
- Anna Pavelecky
- Ted Perchinske
- OJ Solander
- Cathy Stirling
- Jeffrey Syrone
- Laura Vanjo

Evangelizing

TGIF: Daring to be Amazed

FROM THE DESK OF PAULA KAMPF, YOUTH MINISTER

As each of the TGIF retreats began this year, participants and leaders introduced themselves not with the same old list of names, ages and schools attended but instead by sharing with the group one thing that amazed them in the past week. Each person had to move beyond a list of activities, beyond labels and stereotypes and find something in their hectic, busy lives that simply stopped them in their tracks for a moment and reminded them that amazing and wonderful and extraordinary moments are all around us, all the time. In this sharing of amazement (whether it moved us to laughter or to tears!) TGIF participants came to a new awareness of themselves, of the moments of their own lives, of the lives of the people around them and of the amazing presence of God among us. And so a tradition was born—a tradition of stopping for a “ten minute retreat”—and in many of our TGIF moments we find ourselves stopping the busyness to ask “What amazed you this week?”



Action, Activity and Amazing Accomplishments

The activities taken on by TGIF in recent months have in and of themselves been amazing, too. Regi Strauss, Mike Robinson and Erin Vanni joined with hundreds of teens for the Diocesan Youth Conference. A beautiful, vibrant Confirmation Mass with Bishop Pevec celebrated the presence of the Spirit among us. TGIF contacted all of the American Cardinals meeting at the Vatican to express feelings, concerns and questions about the effect of the sexual abuse crisis in the church. Exciting plans for the first-ever TGIF Teen Tent at the parish festival began—including plans for local bands, karaoke contests, a great game show and a DJ'd dance under the stars to entertain teens. Many TGIF teen leaders hope to participate in this summer's Diocesan Leadership Training Conference.

Throughout the summer months, newcomers are especially encouraged to join TGIF. A full calendar of events is available in the parish bookracks or from Youth Minister Paula Kampf. Plans include Movie Nights, Lunch Packing, several offsite field trips, an overnight retreat, picnics, tie-dying party, faith-challenge game nights and loads of hangout time for high school teens. Most TGIF events are held on Wednesday nights, 6-9 pm. Every teen who will be in high school in the coming school year is welcome and encouraged to come, bring friends and be amazed with TGIF!