

Spring 2024 | Issue 17



TOTINO-GRACE HIGH SCHOOL

CONTINUUM



MUCH TO CELEBRATE

SPRING 2024

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ADDRESS CHANGES AND ALUMNI NEWS SUBMISSIONS

Submit address changes and alumni notes at www.totinograce.org/alumni or contact Kelley Beitz in the Advancement Office at 763-586-6328 or tgalumni@totinograce.org. The school reserves the right to publish and/or edit material to reflect the values of our mission.

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Totino-Grace
High School

MISSION STATEMENT

Totino-Grace is an Archdiocesan co-educational Catholic high school in the Lasallian tradition. Welcoming a student body that is academically, economically, and culturally diverse, we strive for equity and excellence in all programs. Recognizing the key elements of our mission as learning, faith, community, and service, we seek to provide a safe environment that places priority on mutual respect, self-discipline, and acknowledgment of our responsibility in the world community.

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Craig W. Junker
President

Cheri Broadhead
Principal

Dan Vandermyde
Assistant Principal

Matthew DeBoer
Dean of Students

Andrew Blake '99
Director of Mission and Ministry

Matt Ksepka
Chief Financial Officer

ADVANCEMENT STAFF

Kelley Beitz
Alumni Relations and Advancement Event Coordinator

Jen Emslander
Advancement Database Analyst

Shannon Hartinger
Major Gift Officer

Tony Mullen
Vice President for Institutional Advancement



From the President's Desk

Lasallian schools like Totino-Grace see the education of young people as a holy endeavor, one that is deeply relational and centered on teaching the minds and touching the hearts of young people.

Totino-Grace understands that it is always about the students. The magic of our school is what takes place within our walls, how our students feel about themselves, each other, and their futures. Because we want our charges to see their future as one of hope and optimism, our teachers use their personalities and interests to bring enthusiasm and joy to the classroom. It's not just about the curriculum. It's about connections. It's about engagement.

Our Portrait of a TG Graduate program is an example of what it means to create authentic learning through transformational experiences. Traditional educational systems prioritize test scores and grades. As our world has undergone rapid technological, economic, and societal changes, TG knows that today's students require a broader skill set, one that encompasses not just academic expertise but also attributes like Faith in God, resilience, curiosity, moral courage, creativity, critical thinking, empathy, innovation, collaboration, and cultural competence to traverse this new landscape successfully.

As a Catholic school, we are constantly creating a culture of discipleship, where students learn how to pray, worship and give thanks. We have a strong culture of service, where our students live out the Gospel in their everyday life. From service immersion right here in the Twin Cities to service immersion trips all over the United States and bi-annually internationally. We often rank in the top 5% in the nation for volunteer work. We are proud of our nearly 120 student ministers who actively work to promote a strong faith life. We are meeting our students where they are in their faith and working to grow it.

The Lasallian expression "Together and by Association" describes a promise to make a difference in young people's lives through relationships and education, and that is what generations of faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and friends have accomplished. Totino-Grace has been blessed with a community dedicated to giving back through time, talent, and treasure. Our desire is for future Eagles to enjoy the exceptional benefits of belonging, academic preparation, personal challenge, and faith development. Totino-Grace has been known for since 1966.

In this edition of *The Continuum*, you will find stories that continue to lift up our pillars of faith, service, leadership, and community. The Christian Brothers and School Sisters of Notre Dame expected their students to do God's work and that's exactly what we are continuing to encourage our students to do today.

Enjoy!

Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!

Dr. Craig W. Junker, President

A Year In Review

This has been a record year for the Eagles and we couldn't be more proud! From school records to state records, our Eagles have made their mark in the history books this year!

ACADEMICS Totino-Grace has 15 seniors who earned a composite score of 30 or greater on the ACT exam! This score is in the 93 percentile in the county. Congratulations to Alexander Bzdok, Allen Cameron, Kaitlyn Dockry, Railey Gerlach, Kira Gerlach, Andrew Hemmesch, Carrington Kreger, Cyril Kruse, Jacob Ksepka, Owen Lamb, Collin Reichel, Adam Schaust, Ryan Seal, Margeaux Voorhees, Mary Walsh.

BOYS SWIM AND DIVE Totino-Grace is part of a co-op boys swim and dive team with Coon Rapids. The team placed fourth at the Section 7AA Championship!



BOWLING Congratulations to our varsity bowling team for making it to their third straight state tournament.



DANCE TEAM Both teams made it to the state tournament and Jazz Team took fourth place and the High Kick Team took first place! Congratulations, E'gals!



GIRLS SOCCER Our girls soccer team took third place in the state tournament in the U.S. Bank Stadium! Amazing job, Eagles!



NWSC HONORS MUSIC FESTIVAL MEMBERS Congratulations to Jacob Berna ('25) and Olivia Vanneste (24) MN All-State Choir members and Logan Chapat ('25) and Ryan Seal ('24) on their MN All-State Band/Orchestra honors.



TG FISHING TEAM Anglers Kieran Hay ('26) and Keegan Kiedrowski ('26) fished an outstanding SATT State Tournament. They placed 10th out of the best 85 teams in the state, catching their seven fish limit of bass with a total bag weight of 21.17 lbs.



SHOW CHOIR SEASON In addition to hosting the 28th Annual Spectacular Show Choir Competition, our group recently performed at Fame Orlando. They were named Grand Champions in the concert choir division, won best band and were second runner up in the show choir competition.



NORDIC SKI Congratulations to our brother and sister duo, Selah ('26) and Reid ('24) Binsfeld who competed on our Park Center co-op team at the Nordic Ski State Tournament.



TRAP SHOOTING Congratulations to Aiden Rehling ('24) for scoring a perfect 50 during our fall trap shooting season!



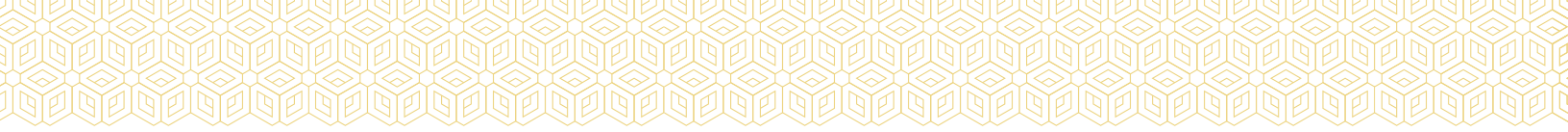
MOUNTAIN BIKING TG's mountain bike team competed in the state championship and John Liiste ('24) won the senior open class by a margin of two minutes and six seconds!



FOOTBALL Section 4AAAA Champs!



CROSS COUNTRY The Boys Cross Country team are the 4AA Section Champs! Congratulations to our cross country runners that ran in the state tournament! Our boys team placed 13th overall. Great job to Isaac Meyer ('24), Matthew Lindgren ('25), Reid Binsfeld ('24), Mathew Misko ('26), Benjamin Effiom ('25), Zachary Bartsch ('24), Jackson Herr ('25), and Selah Binsfeld ('26) on their individuals as well.



FALL MUSICAL The TG Theatre Department put on another successful fall musical, *Mary Poppins*. It was a fabulous show, receiving multiple Hennepin Theatre outstanding and honorable mention awards. Great job, Eagles!



THEATER Shout out to all our theater students on their winter production *Slices of Life: An Evening of 10-Minute Plays!* This performance was a collection of six 10-minute comedy plays. Two of the plays were world premiers, being performed for the first time ever on TG's stage.



ROBOTICS TEAM The TG Robotics Team recently competed in Duluth and is headed to a competition in St. Cloud next.



GIRLS SWIM AND DIVE The girls swim and dive team made it to the section finals! Sianmairead Cox ('24) took fifth place in diving! Morgan Erickson ('25) got sixth place in the 200 IM and sixth place in the 100 Breaststroke! Ella Jennissen ('25) got 13th in the 200 Free and 10th in the 100 Fly. The 200 Medley Relay got sixth place and the 200 Free took fifth place. Great work!



VOLLEYBALL Our girls volleyball team laid the foundation for a promising program heading into next year, with many players earning individual conference awards.



WRESTLING Congratulations to our wrestling team for taking third place at the state tournament! Congratulations to Cyril Kruse ('24) on his first place finish, Jackson Refsnider ('26) on his second place finish, Ethan Sylvester ('24) on his fourth place finish, and Logan Refsnider (future TG Eagle '28) on his sixth place finish in the 2024 State Individual Wrestling Tournament in Class AA!

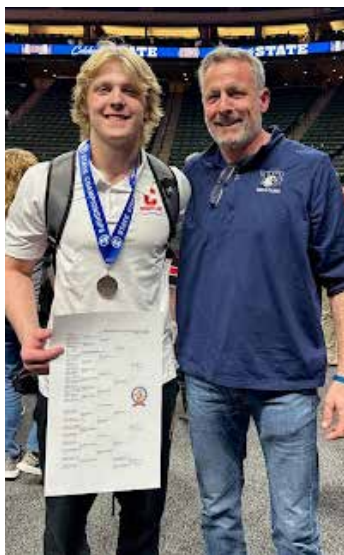


BOYS BASKETBALL Congratulations Eagles on defeating Mankato East 73-64 in the Boys Basketball State Tournament. Earning the State Champions titles three times in a row is an amazing feat. Congratulations!



GIRLS BASKETBALL Congratulations to Chloe Nuss on 1,000 career points!

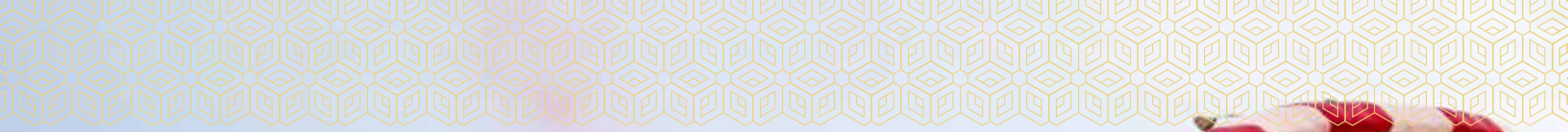
GIRLS BASKETBALL Our girls basketball team won the Section 5AAA Championship, upsetting the #1 seed, Monticello! Nice job, ladies!



STATE WRESTLING CHAMPION 215lb, Cy Kruse '24, with his coach and father, Jay Kruse. Cy has committed to wrestling for Cornell University next year.

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY Congratulations to our very own Erin Schmidt on being nominated for a Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award and named a National Geographic Grosvenor Teacher Fellow. Follow along on her expeditions @schmidt.303 on Instagram.

ADVOCACY AWARD WINNERS Totino-Grace students, Ruby Quinn, Maria Morrison, and Noelle Bjork, participated in the Student Visionaries of the Year program through the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS). As dancers on the Totino-Grace E'gals Dance Team, these young ladies have established a fundraising team "Kicking for a Kause." Their fundraising goal was the same as their dance goal. Each season, the E'gals complete roughly 30,000 kicks to prepare to earn a spot at the state tournament. With that number in mind Kicking for a Kause set an ambitious goal of raising \$1 for each of the 30,000 kicks their dance team does during the season - they raised \$34,960 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and at the LLS grand finale, they won the LLS Student Visionaries "Policy and Advocacy Award" for their efforts to reach such a wide variety of audiences!



HOMECOMING 2023

A night to remember!

With more than 200 alumni in attendance, the night kicked off with a community social gathering, followed by our mini E'gals performing a pregame show. Next, all eyes looked toward the sky as we watched a trio of highly trained parachuters skydive into Jim Totino Stadium to deliver the game ball.

Our Eagles football team took on the Academy of Holy Angels Stars. It was a tightly contested game with TG leading 7-6 at halftime. Our 2023 Totino-Grace Hall of Fame recipients were recognized on the field at halftime.

Multiple weather delays caused the game to be completed on Saturday. In the end, TG prevailed 28-14 to make all of the alums proud.

photo credits: Michael Hamerlind '91

2023 Hall of Fame Inductees



ATHLETES
 Mike Sosniecki '72
 Paul Sitarz '72
 Jake Searles '95
 Lanette Rossini Keane '96
 Dana Kurhajetz '97
 Tiffany Searles '97



**EXCEPTIONAL EAGLE
 ATHLETIC CONTRIBUTOR**
 John Mezzenga



TEAMS
 '06 Football Team
 '07 Football Team
 '08 Girls' Basketball Team



COACH
 Jeff Ferguson '74

Please note that the '06 Football Team played during the '06-'07 school year, and the '07 Football Team played during the '07-'08 school year.



Growing Young Men & Women of Distinction

The Campus Ministry Department at TG has always played a role in developing student leaders, and helping all students grow stronger in their faith. How has this group continued to grow and engage such impressive numbers (more than 120 student ministers this year alone)? Has the dynamic of the group

changed and what does that mean for the future? We sat down with Andrew Blake ('99), Director of Mission and Ministry, to learn more about the past, present, and future of TG's Campus Ministry Department.

How does Campus Ministry strengthen and encourage TG students to grow in their relationship with God?

It is such a gift to be a school community, gathered in faith, in pursuit of God's invitation that we might be people of service to the world around us! This year, our students have been called to be models of gospel love, to live lives that are healthy and holy, and to know themselves as being created for the glory of God and others.

Post-COVID, we are seeing more and more students coming into TG with a wonderfully strong foundational relationship with

God - thanks in large part to our Catholic and Christian grade school partners, parishes, and parents alike. I mention that because walking through our doors with the foundational understanding of who they are in their faith, allows us in the Campus Ministry Department to encourage a formational faith exploration. High school is a great time for that and with so many ways to get involved (service immersion, daily prayer, weekly Mass, food drives, etc.) we pride ourselves on that formational faith piece.

How is a formational faith experience at TG possibly different from what students might be getting at home or in their local parish?

Over the last 5-10 years, the TG Campus Ministry Department has increasingly embraced the five core Lasallian principles - *faith in the presence of God, respect for all people, quality education, inclusive community, and concern for the poor and social justice* - have always been a part of who TG is, but we are really making a concerted effort to take something we've always known and go further with it.

This is my answer when asked "why Catholic education?" Now, more than ever, faith needs to be both foundational and formational. Where we can partner with and work hand-in-hand with parents and parishes is helping these young people be strong in themselves and in their faith.





For us, we get them every day - a parish may not. Naming and knowing kids is easier for us because they are seeking us out, raising their hand and saying "I want to go deeper in my relationship with God here." Our ultimate goal would be for young people to leave us and go on to their colleges, relationships, parishes, jobs and ask "how can I be a person of faith *because* of my high school experience and the ways I learned to make a difference?"

How are TG students learning this in the Campus Ministry Program?

Through a Lasallian lens and from the TG Campus Ministry Office, we have

really tried to put some intentionality around building a community that sees and respects others. Serving, not just through campus ministry or on a service immersion trip, but through all of our classes, teams, clubs, and interactions. Service is sewn into the fabric of TG.

I am always telling students, "be significant, not just successful." All schools want their students to be successful, as they should, but we ask TG students to dig a bit deeper. How can we live lives of impact and impact others?

How are TG students positively impacting others?

So many ways - truly too many to list - but I think there are a few outstanding examples that illustrate the idea of service being formational.

As part of our junior retreats this year, we partnered with Second Harvest Heartland. Second Harvest works with 423 agency partners and 1,115 programs across a 59-county



area in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Sometimes, service feels intimidating or like it needs to be “bigger” or have a global lens. While those forms of service continue to be important there is something critical about showing our students the need in our own backyard.

Packing meals for our own community, for the unseen poor. Those that, if you’re not intentional about seeing, you will miss them. When we get there and our students are told who they are packing food for, it hits them. We’ve had groups packing food for the working poor, senior citizens, refugees, those with chronic illnesses, kids in need of snacks at school - it is about so much more than food. It’s about helping those in crisis find stability. That kind of service, especially for kids, has an incredible impact.

What is your hope for TG’s Campus Ministry Program?

Our hope is not to give our kids the

answers, it’s to show them unique ways to respond to people in need and ask the right questions.

We don’t know the challenges that our kids will face and the world is getting more complicated all the time, but we can help them open their hearts. There is a rigidity in high school right now that is very heavy and puts a lot on our kids. We are trying to tap into that and say, “see the forest - not just the tree.” Sometimes, just giving them a place to move out of a task-driven

environment and open their hearts to God is all it takes. Campus Ministry is that place for our students. Sometimes they just need to slow down, have someone listen to them, and have a cup of coffee...their coffee just comes with a lot more milk, cream, flavored syrups, and sugar.

That’s a long way to say, my hope for the program is that if you are someone that is seeking a deeper relationship with God - you will find it at TG.



2024 Respect Life Club



Join our 1966 Club Today!

Totino Grace High School



1966
C L U B

Easy, Convenient, Automatic...

The Totino-Grace 1966 Club recognizes donors who support our school through monthly recurring donations. Recurring gifts offer unique benefits to our mission by allowing us to budget further into the future and plan with confidence. Join today!



Club Events

Membership gets you exclusive access to 1966 Club Events!



Feel Goods

Join our Club and know you are investing in a future Eagle!



Connection

Stay connected through newsletter updates celebrating your impact!



Spread the Word!
Help us grow the Club!

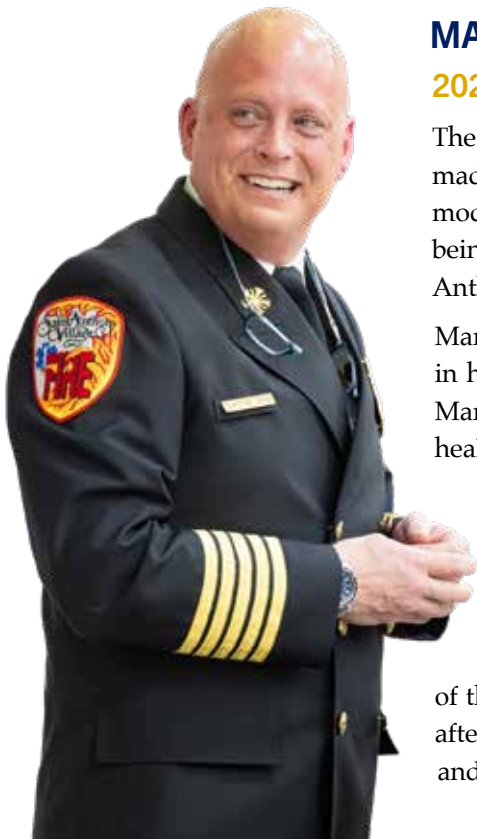
JOIN NOW



2024 Legacy Award Recipients

We had a spectacular evening at the President's Dinner and Legacy Awards Presentation in early February where we were blessed to spotlight six members of our community who make Totino-Grace exceptional.

Join us in congratulating Mark Sitarz ('88), Barbara Gerber, Tara Melsha ('89), Gary and Celine Horn, and Philip and Jennifer Ebeling - each one inspires us all. They lift others up while sharing a profound dedication to TG and we are blessed to have them as part of our community! See below for additional details of each award and our distinguished recipients.



MARK SITARZ '88

2024 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The Totino-Grace High School Distinguished Alumni Award honors alumni who have made a distinct contribution in their field of profession and who serve as positive role models. Mr. Mark Sitarz '88 is our 2024 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and is being recognized for the impact he delivered over his 25 years of service to the Saint Anthony fire department.

Mark's passion to serve others was instilled during his time at Totino-Grace. While in high school, he participated in a variety of activities including as a peer mentor. Mark also spent a summer in Ecuador assisting poor farming villages to improve their health and hygiene. Mark's experiences at TG would ultimately shape his identity.

After graduating from St. John's University, Mark spent ten years as an IT professional. While working in IT most of the week, in 1998 - Mark became a paid on-call firefighter as well. He worked his way up to lieutenant, to captain, and finally to chief from 2013-2023.

Mark was recently awarded the MN State Fire Chiefs Association's fire officer of the year for cities under a population of 10,000. Mark retired on October 31, 2023 after a 25 year career with the St. Anthony Fire department. Mark is married to Sarah and enjoys traveling and cooking.

One of Mark's classmates describes Mark's passion for serving others as follows: *"Mark is willing to help anyone he encounters and there are numerous accounts of this in his job with the fire department, but this has always been who Mark is. He will give the shirt off his back to help those in need...and especially those of us who are lucky to call him a close friend."*

GARY & CELINE HORN | 2024 SIGNUM FIDEI AWARD

The Signum Fidei award recognizes individuals who have made a planned gift to Totino-Grace in their estate plan. Gary and Celine Horn are the 2024 Signum Fidei Award recipients.

Gary and Celine grew up on farms in Iowa; Gary near Fort Dodge and Celine near Mason City. Both Gary and Celine are accounting majors and CPAs who attended the University of Iowa. Gary retired as CFO of Old Republic Title in 2020. Celine retired as an accountant from The Metro Educational Cooperative Service Unit in 2019.

Gary and Celine believe strongly in the importance of Catholic education and want to ensure a high-quality education remains affordable for all. They sent both of their daughters, Michelle Higgins '07 and Rachel Horn '05 to Totino-Grace. In his acceptance speech, Gary stated that the reason he and Celine are making an estate gift to TG is that "it just feels like the right thing to do. It is a chance to really make a difference. We all know what a special place Totino-Grace is and what an impact it has on students' lives."

Gary and Celine have been residents of New Brighton for over 40 years and are the proud grandparents to three grandsons.



BARB GERBER | BROTHER MILTON SERVICE AWARD WINNER

The Brother Milton Barker Service Award recognizes outstanding leadership and exemplary service to the Totino-Grace High School community. This recognition is presented to individuals who have gone above and beyond to make a significant impact by sharing their time and talent. Barb Gerber is a recipient of the 2024 Brother Milton Barker Service Award.

Barb's service to TG began before there was a school, when she, and other members of St. Alphonsus Church worked with the archdiocese to commission a co-ed high school in the Northwest Metro. As you know, this group of parents were successful and Grace High School was born in 1966.

Barb got involved with volunteering at Grace right away. She coordinated information nights and served ham dinners to other parochial school parents to enlist their help to volunteer for the upcoming Sno-Daze carnival which she partnered with Brother Milton on. Sno-Daze was our school's carnival and biggest fundraiser. Fundraising was crucial for this young school and she "showed up" for it. Barb was foundational in running events like the carnival for 20 years. In her words, she said: "When you're part of TG, you're part of something special."

Barb is the mother to six alumni children and seven alumni grandchildren. Her oldest daughter, Nancy '71, was in the second graduating class of Grace High School. Paul '72 (deceased), Peter '75, Sally '79, Patrick '83 and Mary '89 followed. Barb continues to remain passionate about Catholic education. In her acceptance speech, Barb spoke of the importance of setting an example for your children: "I wanted my kids to know how important it is to be giving of yourself to others. Charity begins with yourself."





TARA MELSHA '89 **2024 BROTHER MILTON BARKER SERVICE AWARD**

The Brother Milton Barker Service Award recognizes outstanding leadership and exemplary service to the Totino-Grace High School community. This recognition is presented to individuals who have gone above and beyond to make a significant impact by sharing their time and talent. Tara Melsha '89 is a recipient of the 2024 Brother Milton Barker Service Award.

Tara's record of service to TG is second to none. She has been a TG board member and served for two years as co-chair of our Board of Directors. Her six-year commitment to the Board is coming to an end this summer. Tara has been part of TG's Finance Committee, Executive Committee, Marketing Committee, and Mission Committee. Tara has also served on the Gala Committee. Tara describes her willingness to serve as: "It's not hard to give back to a place where people are rowing the boat in the same direction. I want other people's kids to have a great experience here."

Tara is married to her TG classmate Chris Melsha '89 and they have three boys who also attended TG (Carter '18, William '21 and Nicholas '21).

PHILIP & JENNIFER EBELING **PRESIDENT'S AWARD WINNER**

The President's Award recognizes and honors individuals whose leadership and achievements in the area of Christian faith, service, and philanthropy have made an exceptional impact on Totino-Grace High School. Phil and Jennifer Ebeling are the recipients of the 2024 President's Award.

Phil and Jennifer first became involved with Totino-Grace when their son, PJ, enrolled as a student in the fall of 2018. Since then, they've given generously of time, talent, and treasure. In addition to their financial support of TG, the Ebelings have given much time and thoughtful leadership to our school. Phil served as a mentor in TG's E3 Engineering program as a way to give back to those who paved the way for his successful career. In his acceptance speech, Phil spoke of the principles of "paying it forward" and "finding what works for you to get involved". He added that what nonprofit organizations really need is your commitment of "time and talent".

Phil and Jennifer grew up in Southwestern Minnesota, near Worthington. Their sense of wanting to give back comes from how they were raised and the sense of work ethic that they have. They currently reside in Maple Grove with their four children.



The TG Gala is the Social Event of the Year

Exciting plans are underway for Totino-Grace's 40th Anniversary Gala on Saturday, November 23, 2024, at The Depot, in Minneapolis. In 2023, we were thrilled to welcome 560 guests who helped raise crucial funds for our students for our largest school fundraiser. Make plans to join us this fall as we "go big" to celebrate 40 years of Gala community and support for our students. You will not want to miss TG's 40th Anniversary Gala!



To view the 2023 Gala Fund-A-Need video scan the QR code.



YOU'RE NOT GOING TO WANT TO MISS THIS!

40TH SAVE THE DATE ANNUAL

TOTINO-GRACE
Gala 40 **A FORMAL Affair**

NOVEMBER 23
 THE DEPOT | MINNEAPOLIS

JOIN US AT THE 2024 TG GALA AS A VOLUNTEER! Whether you have just two hours to spare or want to be part of our Silent Auction Committee, there are plenty of ways to get involved. Contact Kelley Beitz at kelley.beitz@gmail.com to learn more and join your fellow Totino-Grace parents in making this event a success!



A Letter From Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Tony Mullen

Dear Totino-Grace Community,

As we rapidly approach the end of an exciting and successful school year, I am filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of our parents, grandparents, alumni, friends, and generous donors. Your commitment to our school's mission and values is the cornerstone of our success. On behalf of the Advancement Team, **THANK YOU** for your continued support of the TG mission.

I also wanted to make you aware of two important dates in May where we kindly ask for your participation and support. Our annual **Giving Day** will take place on **Thursday, May 9, 2024**. Giving Day is a day where our community rallies together and demonstrates its true culture of giving back. Funds raised on Giving Day provide support for student and teacher programs. This year, our Giving Day theme centers around celebrating the rich traditions that have defined Totino-Grace. On this special day, we invite you to contribute to support the continued growth and excellence of TG. Every donation, no matter the size, makes a meaningful difference in the lives of our students and the vitality of our school community.

In addition to Giving Day, we are excited to announce that our annual **Eagle Shoot Golf Tournament** will take place on **Monday, May 20, 2024**, at Mendakota Country Club. Funds raised from this event support all of our student athletics, clubs, and activities. This event brings together alumni, parents, and friends for a day of friendly competition and camaraderie, all in support of Totino-Grace athletics and activities. Consider signing up to attend or assist by sponsoring this event.

We invite you to mark your calendars and participate in these two upcoming events. Together we can come together to celebrate our heritage and forge a path toward an even brighter future for Totino-Grace. Together, we will continue to soar to new heights.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Mullen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Tony Mullen
Vice President for Institutional Advancement



UPCOMING EVENTS

- APRIL 29** GALA VOLUNTEER KICK-OFF MEETING
- MAY 9** TG GIVING DAY
- MAY 20** EAGLE SHOOT GOLF TOURNAMENT
- OCT 4** HOMECOMING GAME

EAGLE SHOOT GOLF TOURNAMENT

MENDAKOTA COUNTRY CLUB

MAY 20 2024 11:00 AM

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR SPONSORS

As a corporate sponsor of our annual Eagle Shoot Golf Tournament, you will support the Totino-Grace co-curricular activities and athletic programs that create conference and state champions, future community leaders, stars of the stage, and global servant leaders. Your generous sponsorship supports our mission and changes the lives of our students.



Learn more and Register



TAKE SUMMER TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Totino-Grace Summer Camps are a great way to let your child explore new activities, expand current interests, discover talents and develop emerging skills. Academic, athletic, and performing arts camp experiences are available for students in elementary, middle and high school.

View the options and get registered here:



Class Notes

1971 PHOTOS 1 & 2

Ron Mikolai '71 was chosen as the 2024 Prince of the East Wind for the St. Paul Winter Carnival!

1974 PHOTO 3

Colleen (Raskob) Lundeen '74 and husband Ronald Lundeen were married in September of 2022. Colleen served 26 years in the Air Force (5.5 years active duty, 21 years Reserves) and was also self employed (On Site Logistics).



1979 PHOTO 4

Ellen Keane ('79) and **Cathy (Keane) Wind '82** (pictured) opened a new dance studio this past year. They specialize in adult tap dance. 200+ adults take 1-2 classes per week in tap, jazz, barre, and Irish dance. They offer introductory through professional training for all ages at tapcompany.org.



1990 PHOTO 5

TG alumna **Kristina-Lemke Mckean '90** was on the Kelly Clarkson show for her work with elephants! Scan the QR code to learn more about her 20+ years of passion and philanthropic work for elephants that was sparked by a trip to Thailand.



1993 PHOTO 6

Kristen (Malik) Gagnon '93 completed her 30th year as a coach of the E'gals dance team here at Totino-Grace! This past winter season the E'gals took first in kick at state, bringing home their 11th state victory! Thank you for your hard work, Kristen.



1998 PHOTO 7

Ashley and Andy Frost '98 welcomed their son, Santiago, in July 2023. Also pictured is big brother Mateo (2).

1998 PHOTO 8

Amber Hartman '98 and **Andy Frost '98** put together and hosted the 25 year reunion for the class of 1998 which was held on February 24, 2024, at Moe's American Grill in Mounds View.



7



8



9

2001 PHOTO 9

John Rogers '01 was ordained deacon for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis on December 9, 2023. Pictured is Deacon John with his wife, Sara, and children Anna, Josie, Elias, and Jude.



10

2002 PHOTO 10

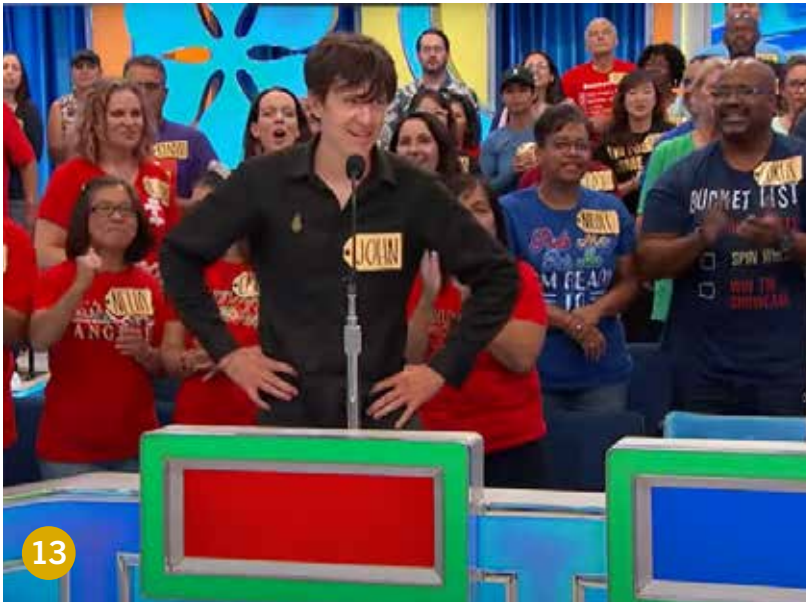
Emily and **Stephen Ruether '02** welcomed their son Hedrick. Also pictured are proud older brother, Weston (6), and sister, Everly (4), "helping" hold their brother.



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13



14

2002 PHOTO 11

Amanda Scott '02 and husband Gene Anderson welcomed their daughter Capri Marie in 2022!

2005 PHOTO 12

Katy (Moore) Olson '05 gave birth to twin daughters, Ava and Madeline, on July 7, 2023. Congrats to Katy and her husband Joe!

2007 PHOTOS 13 & 14

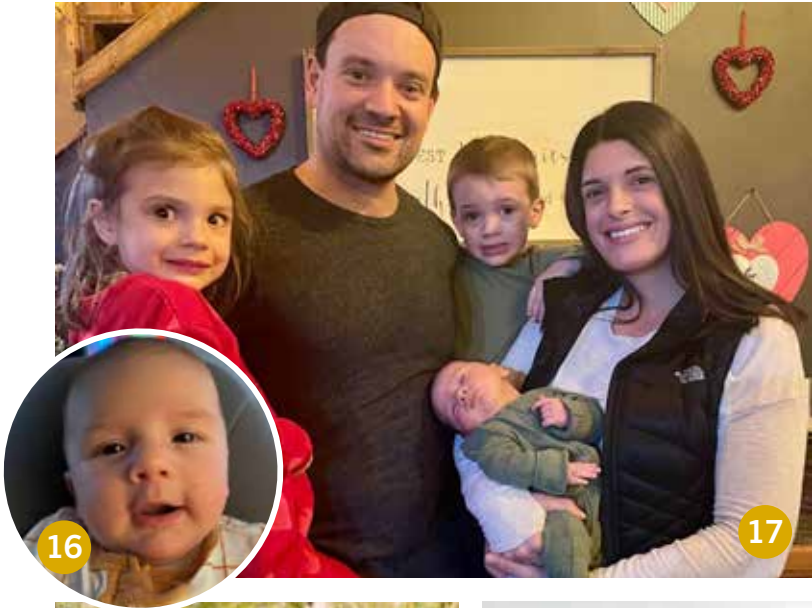
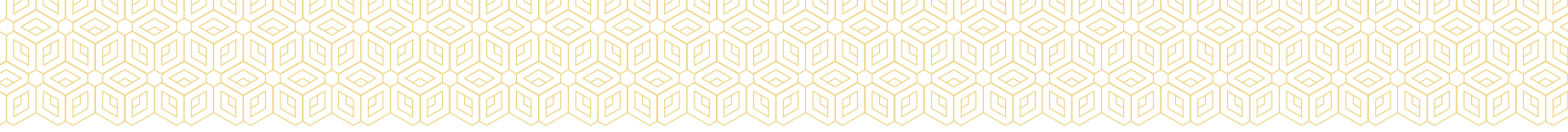
John Murray '07 Stars on The Price is Right! John is a worldwide traveler who has his own international trade business JCM International with a focus on improving relations and trade, and building bridges with China. CBS aired The Price is Right featuring John, who stars for the first 20 minutes (until he loses at the spinning wheel).

2008 PHOTO 15

Veronica (Scott) Paulson '08 and husband, Marcus, welcomed their fourth baby in February, Ariana Faith!



15



2008 PHOTOS 16 & 17

Carolyn (Haik) Rossow '08 and her husband, Ben, welcomed their third baby, Callahan Lee, in December. Callahan joins Blake (4) and Benny (3) in the Rossow lineup.

2008 PHOTO 18

Gillian (Schack) Kubitschek '08 and husband, Joshua, welcomed their third daughter, Lainey Jeanne, on December 7, 2023.

2011 PHOTO 19

Katelyn (Ferguson) Lamski '11 married Tucker Lamski on October 7, 2023 at Stouts Island Lodge in Birchwood, Wisconsin. Members of the wedding party included father, **Jeffrey Ferguson**

'74, Sydney Peck '11, Jenna (Ferguson) Zamjahn '05, Kelli (Ferguson) Martins '06, and Michael Ferguson '08 who officiated the wedding!

2013 PHOTO 20

Ashley (Miller) Gerding '13 married Mark Gerding at Oak Glen Golf Course in Stillwater, MN in September - congrats!!!

2013 PHOTO 21

Austin Peters '13 and **Maggie (Eisfelder) Peters '13** welcomed their son, Christopher, on November 22, 2023! The Peters are also members of the prestigious 1966 Club at TG! The 1966 Club recognizes donors that make recurring monthly donations. The 1966 Club not only supports Totino-Grace's legacy but also fuels its future.



22



23



24



25

2013 PHOTOS 22 & 23

Andrea (Gagnon) Bonine '13 got married in 2022 in Tennessee to Blake Bonine. **Nicole (Gagnon) Holtan '16, Danielle Gagnon '22, Megan (Dahl) Durbin '13** and **Nick Holtan '16** were in the wedding party. Andrea and Blake also just welcomed baby boy, Ford Jackson, in May 2023.

2016 PHOTOS 24 & 25

Lexi (Weierke) MacDonald '16 married Wibi MacDonald on October 7, 2023, at Bunker Hills Golf Course. TG Graduates in the wedding party included sister **Sydney Weierke '17** and alumni friends **Rachel Kullas '16** and **Miranda Nichols '16**.

All classes ending in 4 or 9 are due for reunions in 2024! Totino-Grace partners with reunion coordinators to make sure each class of graduates has an opportunity to celebrate a reunion every five years. Planning your reunion is now easier than ever! Your class reunion coordinators work with the Alumni Relations & Advancement Events Coordinator to create & send invitations, collect RSVPs, and coordinate additional details to make the event memorable for all attendees. If you are interested in helping plan your reunion please contact Kelley Beitz at kelley.beitz@totinograce.org or by calling 763-586-6326.

Classes are already underway with their planning! Scan the QR code to find out more about your class reunion!





2018 PHOTO 26

Josh Clark '18 became a pro MMA boxer and is 7-1 as a pro boxer. This picture is of Josh winning his 7th pro boxing match on World TV in Miami, Florida, for Don Kings Promotions. His fight was the first fight on the main card, beating a former national Amateur boxing champion, with a pro record of 13 wins and 0 losses and had 12 wins by KO. This fight was on June 9, 2023. Josh has broken five world fitness records and became the new owner of his own martial arts gym in Rogers, MN called "Clarke's MMA & Boxing Gym."

2019 PHOTOS 27 & 28

Herbert Endeley '19 was selected as one of the starting soccer players for FC Dallas in their preseason game against Inter Miami. He realized a lifelong dream of playing against their team captain, Argentina World Cup Champion, and eight time Ballon D'Or winner Lionel Messi! He also played against another idol of his, Jordi Alba.

2020 PHOTO 29

Carla Meyer '20, scored her 1,000th collegiate career point for Saint Benedict in a home victory in January. Carla is the all-time leading scorer in Totino-Grace Girls' Basketball history and is now in the history books for CSB, and still climbing!

2020 PHOTO 30

Congratulations to **Liam Vance '20** and the St. Olaf College men's soccer team for winning the NCAA Division III national championship with a 2-1 overtime win over Amherst College on Sunday afternoon in Virginia!

2021 PHOTO 31

Congratulations to **Emilie Meyer '21** on breaking Drake's school record for the 800m! This record has been held since 1995.



2022 PHOTO 32

Minnesota State University's women's basketball team, and **Hannah Herzig '22**, won the NCAA DII National Championship game on March 29, 2024 against Texas Woman's University.

2023 PHOTO 33

Ava Ernst '23 was crowned as the USA National Miss Minnesota Teen 2024 at the state pageant on October 22, 2023. A Dean's List freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ava is a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, active in Best Buddies, and is in her fifth year as a Youth Advisory Board member for PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center. She will compete for a prize package worth over \$150,000 at the 2024 USA National Miss Teen pageant, to be held in Orlando, FL, July 13-20, 2024.

2023 PHOTO 34

Ruthie Loperfido '23 has taken a gap year to participate in the USA Northernettes Junior Team, before heading off to Villanova next year.

2023 PHOTO 35

TG Hockey standout **Oliver Moore** made the Big Ten All-Freshman 2023-2024 team and was the Big Ten Second Star of the Week January 30, 2024.

ALL YEARS PHOTO 36

Christmas Mass is our favorite of the year! Thank you to all alumni that came to our annual Christmas Mass.



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Come together to make
YOUR IMPACT
on May 9!

Mark your calendars for TG Giving Day on May 9, 2024. TG Giving Day is a fun and exciting day where alumni, parents, grandparents, and friends come together to raise funds to support our school. Last year, 390 donors supported TG Giving Day by contributing more than \$180,000 to our TG Annual Fund.

Watch your email and TG social media for more information about the big day. We can't wait to see the TG community rise to the challenge and show that blue and gold spirit!

