UPDATE CONTACT INFO HERE

SAINTS CONNECTION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS



Kellie Strube Shares Message at Women's Conference

Kellie (Pyle) Strube, '01, recently had the honor of returning as a breakout session speaker at the annual Living in Vitality women's conference, held each fall at the Overland Park Convention Center. This year's theme, "LIV Your Mark," encouraged women to reflect on their experiences, recognize their strengths and make a lasting impact.

Alongside her supervisor and two fellow therapists from AdventHealth Shawnee Mission, Kellie presented a session titled "Reclaiming You." The discussion focused on finding purpose and meaning through life's painful experiences, recognizing that what may feel like a breakdown can actually become a breakthrough. Participants were encouraged not to let difficult experiences define them, but instead reconnect with their personal values, rediscover the women they want to become and focus on what truly matters, all while giving themselves grace along the way.

Kellie even stepped outside her comfort zone and tapped into her own courage by breaking out in song in front of more than 150 women!

A Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC), Kellie has spent more than 20 years facilitating group therapy with adults. For the past 15 years, she has served as the Team Lead in the Intensive Outpatient Program at AdventHealth Shawnee Mission. Her passion for mental health and helping others recognize their strengths makes this conference a natural extension of the work she does every day.

For approximately eight years, Kellie has enjoyed being part of the Living in Vitality conference, an inspiring day dedicated to celebrating women and encouraging them to live boldly.

For Kellie, the opportunity to share meaningful insights and connect with other women is especially rewarding. Presenting alongside her wonderful coworkers and supervisor made the experience even more special. Having her mother and mother-in-law sitting in the front row was the icing on the cake!

Kellie left the conference feeling inspired and ready to continue sharing her message: our challenges do not have to define us, and with courage, purpose and grace, we can move forward and make our mark.





GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Led by Justin Wrigley, the girls were determined to win at Rimrock in Lawrence.

Brooklyn Huigens, 4th (All State)
Rachel Seger, 14th (All State)
Caroline Cooper, 16th (All State)
Britta Tripp, 20th (All State)
Anna Lunde, 32nd
Amelia Paradise, 72nd
August Higgerson, 87th



VOLLEYBALL

THREE-PEAT

Led by Sarah Ikenberry, ‘96, winning thier 3rd championship in a row at BluHawk in Kansas City.





FLAG FOOTBALL

RUNNER-UP IN FIRST YEAR

Led by Sam Paradise, ‘03, in the inaugural KSHSAA year with only 2 seniors.



STUDENTS BREAK OWN CANNED FOOD RECORD

Saint Thomas Aquinas has collected an amazing **203,679 cans** during this year's Annual Canned Food Drive, setting a new school record!

This year's total surpasses the previous record of 177,801 cans, set back in 2015.

Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered and helped make this year's drive such a tremendous success.

PICTURES







EXTRAVAGANZA FUND-A-NEED

Classroom Seating Where Saints Can Thrive!

Our goal is to transform 10 classrooms, with the opportunity to reach up to 35 classrooms as additional funds are raised.

Every gift makes a difference! All donations are needed and deeply appreciated.



FUND-A-NEED

Serva Fidem



Weekly small groups led by mentors who care.

Want to become a mentor?

We are looking for alumni that would like to advise our students during their high school career.

Contact Michelle Molloy, class of 2010, for details

Ellie Coatar

Ellie Coatar, ’10, is making her mark in the broadcast news industry as an evening news producer for CBS Chicago. Working in the third-largest television market in the country, Ellie has earned multiple Emmy Awards!

Last year, Kim Spillman’s upperclassmen Thespian students had the opportunity to meet Ellie and enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of the CBS Chicago studio. Students got an inside look at what goes into producing a nightly newscast, including a shuttle launch live from the studio!





Maggie Payne



Maggie Payne, ’24, continues to make her mark on the soccer field at Regis University! For the fifth consecutive week, Maggie has been named the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) Goalkeeper of the Week.

With this latest recognition, Maggie becomes the first player in Regis Rangers program history to earn the honor five times in a single season. She now ranks second in program history for career Goalkeeper of the Week awards, trailing only Julia Coombs, who holds the record with six.

Read more about Maggie at Regisrangers.com.

Marika Davis

Marika Davis, ’20, is making big moves in sports entertainment! After serving as the In-Game Host for Sporting Kansas City and being selected to host Kansas City matches during the FIFA World Cup, Marika has accepted a new position as the In-Arena Host for the NHL’s Seattle Kraken.

Congratulations, Marika!

Read about Marika from the Seattle Kraken!





SUPPORTING ALUMNI

Support the Saints Community Fund



The Saints Community Fund provides students with a well-rounded experience rooted in faith, learning, service, and community. Through academics, fine arts, campus ministry, athletics, and student life, every gift creates opportunities for students to discover, develop, and share their God-given gifts. We are all called to be Saints, and your generosity helps our students grow into all God has called them to be. Join us in making these opportunities possible for every Saint.

Amor Vincit Omnia – Love Conquers All.

GIVE NOW