



# TYME OUT

Youth Ministry & Retreat Center

Spring 2011

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## TYME OUT

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## Sun shines for SpringTYME

While 'springtime' this year has proven to be elusive outside, the sun shone brightly indoors May 6 at SpringTYME. Of course, this was due in part to the recently renovated gymnasium which has been branded with TYME OUT's rising sun logo on its walls. However, the warmth in the room can rightly be said to have come from the more than 200 longtime friends and new acquaintances gathered together for a night of friend- and fund-raising.

TYME OUT's own chef Jen Becker did a marvelous job of preparing a delicious meal for our hungry guests, and Steve 'The Homer' True was electric in his stage presence as he masterfully conducted the live auction.

"The night was wonderful and we couldn't have done it without many people who make this such a success," said SpringTYME co-chair Diane James. "From the donors who made the gym project possible, to the ladies who help with the mailings, to the volunteers

who set up and help out during the event, it couldn't happen without them all."

Development Director Tim Kasza commented, "SpringTYME is a time for our friends and supporters to celebrate the good work accomplished over the past year, but it is also a time where we collectively look forward to the future of TYME OUT's ever-expanding role in ministry. This year TYME OUT has served more than 9,000 young people and adults. We have great plans, some of which Michael Day shared with the crowd tonight, to not only serve more youth, but to do so with expanded programming and improved facilities."

TYME OUT co-foundress Sister Kieran Sawyer, SSND, aptly concluded, "Springtime, whether it is spelled with an 'I' or a 'Y,' is a time of planting for a later harvest, and we are more excited than ever by the seeds that are being sown today." ✚



# Fun + faith + facts = TYME OUT's annual Faith-A-Thon

The 11th annual Faith-A-Thon was held May 13-14 and was another great success. Co-sponsored by the Milwaukee Archdiocese, the event engages teams of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in a series of games designed to educate and further inculcate faith-based facts as they compete for top honors.

Schools and parishes organize teams and prepare them to participate in games based on the commandments, sacraments, Scripture, doctrine, church history, saints, and more. Questions are drawn from the curriculum of various religion textbooks used in Archdiocesan schools and religious education programs. This year, 34 teams participated, impressing the judges as they enthusiastically competed while demonstrating their great depth and breadth of knowledge. Awards were as follows:

<b>Friday</b>	1st Place:	St. Mary's Visitation, Elm Grove	<b>Saturday</b>	1st Place:	St. John Vianney, Brookfield
	2nd Place:	St. Paul, Genesee Depot		2nd Place:	St. John Vianney, Brookfield
	3rd Place:	St. Matthias, Milwaukee		3rd Place:	St. John Vianney, Brookfield



## From the director's desk

Spring is certainly the season of transformations. All one needs to do is look at the blooming and blossoming that is finally abounding to see that something fresh is afoot. As we celebrate the joy of Easter, we celebrate a transformed and risen Christ. The Sunday Gospel readings remind us

of the challenges the disciples faced as they learned to be in a new kind of relationship with their friend and teacher.

Transformation is an appropriate term to describe life at TYME OUT this spring as well. The month of May always brings two major events, one being our fundraiser, Celebrate SpringTYME, and the other being our yearly Faith-A-Thon. This year, we have had the pleasure of staging these wonderful events in a freshly renovated gym! As you peruse this newsletter you'll see images from these wonderful events, images that witness to the efforts we are making to build for the future.

Today, I would like share with you another transformation which is taking place for TYME OUT. Over the last 3-4 months, I have engaged in prayerful discernment over the question of whether God may be calling me in a new direction, towards some form of more direct ministry, in a role that would be more pastoral and less managerial and administrative in nature. Through spiritual direction, personal retreat time and consulting with mentors and family, I've come to believe that, both personally and for TYME OUT, it is time for change.

It has been my privilege to serve TYME OUT for nine years between 2001 and today. In two years as a retreat director and summer camp director, two years as director-in-training and now five years as executive director, I have learned much and I am proud of many accomplishments. I have been proud to

help bring TYME OUT successfully through the transition from founder to new leadership. I am proud of the level of ownership that TYME OUT currently enjoys from both staff and board. I am proud of the relationship we have built with our sponsoring SSND community. I am proud that the 2011-12 budget shows a balanced bottom line. There is so much more to list here, but I hope the message is clear, that I am proud, grateful and happy about what we've accomplished in the last 5 years.

As to transition, I have shared with our Board of Directors my intention to complete my contract for this year which ends on May 31 and have offered my efforts to TYME OUT beyond that date as well. I do not have another position lined up at this point and am praying that my finding a new opportunity will line up in time with the identification of new or interim leadership for TYME OUT. I trust that through God's providence, the many gifts of the Board of Directors and the dedication of our current staff that a bright future lays ahead.

Leadership transition can certainly cause concern on the part of supporters and friends of any ministry or organization and I'm sure such will be the case for TYME OUT. However, in this instance, I firmly believe that TYME OUT is on the verge of a great opportunity to call forth new leadership which will carry forward an exciting era for our beloved ministry with teens. I truly hope that TYME OUT can count on your prayers and support today and into the future as we continue to serve teens, helping them to reach the fullness of their potential as individuals created in God's image. ✚

*Ben Brzeski,  
Executive Director*



# Retreats Summer 2011

St. Frances Cabrini School, West Bend † Pankratz Family Reunion, Brookfield † Lake Country Farmer's Market, Nashotah † Wisconsin Teens for Life, Wisconsin † All Saints Parish, Minnesota † World Youth Day retreat, Nashotah † Grandparents-Grandkids retreat, Nashotah † Harry Potter Retreat, Nashotah † Reach Out/Reach In, Milwaukee † Our Lady of Lourdes, Milwaukee † World Youth Day, Madrid † Committee for the Promotion of Excellence in Music, Milwaukee † Pewaukee Kiwanis, Pewaukee



## From the Board President

Dear Friends of TYME OUT –

A short time ago, Ben told me of his decision to step down as executive director of TYME OUT. While this unexpected news saddened me, I was able to take heart in the fact that Ben's leadership has meant great strides for TYME OUT. Over

the last five years, I have always been impressed by Ben's abilities, and TYME OUT will miss him. As one of the staff described him to me last fall, he says "awesome prayers."

Ben's steady, thoughtful guidance has meant a lot to this ministry, but our God is a God of surprises, from picking very imperfect people like Abraham to be the father of His chosen people; or Moses, who wasn't good at public speaking; or King David, the youngest of Jesse's sons, to be their leaders. Elderly Sarah laughed when told she would have a child, and Mary was certainly surprised by what the Angel Gabriel had to say to her. And there are the big surprises of Holy Week, when the Messiah is crucified and then resurrected. Though I was surprised that God has other plans for Ben, I have no doubt that Ben was listening very hard (and also saying some quiet, awesome prayers, too).

While I realize the importance of the executive director role to TYME OUT, the staff will continue to do God's work until and after a new executive director is on board. Ben has assured me of his continued commitment to TYME OUT, and to a smooth transition.

Looking back, I am sure we were all concerned when Sr. Kieran retired as head of TYME OUT. Could the mission continue? Would we find someone who could provide her level of leadership? The School Sisters of Notre Dame, with the Board, made an excellent choice in Ben, and together we will do it again. With the assistance of Sr. Deb Sciano, the TYME OUT Board has formed a search committee to discern a new leader. Staff will also participate in the process.

About four years ago, I was let go from my job, and was unemployed for several months. While the searching question "why?" never got a complete answer, I came to appreciate that I was not in control, and that I did not know "the rest of the story." Not being in control (as if we ever were?) is frightening, but also reassuring, if one has faith in God. The awesomeness of His creation is testimony to that.

Please keep TYME OUT in your prayers as we seek a new executive director to help guide this important ministry through a bright, promising future. †

In Christ,

*Jerry DeMers*  
President, Board of Directors

## Farmer's Market @ TYME OUT

Lovers of locally and organically grown fruits, and vegetables, as well as artisan cheeses and breads, will want to mark their calendars to attend the farmers market. The market begins on June 2 and will take place every other Thursday until September 22, from 3-6 p.m.

### Market dates:

June 2, 16, 30

July 14, 28

August 11, 25

September 8, 22

### Monthly workshops 1-4 p.m.

**July 14** Jam & Jelly Making  
(RSVP by June 30)

**Aug. 11** Sauerkraut Making  
(RSVP by July 28)

**Sept. 22** Artisan Bread Making  
(RSVP by Sept. 8)

A \$15 fee covers presentation and supplies. To register, call Jen Becker at (262) 966-1800.



# Harry Potter

RETREAT AT TYME OUT

JULY  
21-22

GRADES  
9-12



This special retreat is a great opportunity for youth to explore how God is present in the popular Harry Potter novels. For further details or to register, please call Lea at (262) 966-1800 or download the retreat brochure:

[www.tymeout.org/blog.php](http://www.tymeout.org/blog.php)

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*TYME OUT is a sponsored institution of  
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