

THE PATHWAYS POST

March 10, 2010

Volume 2, Issue 5

New Adult Learning Program offered at WLC

pathWAYS
TO college

Contributed by: James A. Brandt — Vice President of Adult & Graduate Studies

Pathways Parents and Friends . . . Take the LEAD . . . and invest in YOURSELF!!!

You started your educational pursuit, but let's face it: Life happens! Perhaps you got married...work took a priority...or other personal challenges interrupted your plans. For any number of reasons, you have not finished your educational goals. But now, it's your turn!

If you are looking to advance professionally, build your leadership capacity, and achieve your college degree, WLC is the right place for you! And **now** is the best time to capitalize on all that hard work you started! Right now LEAD is offering a **\$2,000 scholarship** for its new accelerated degree completion program.

The LEAD (Leadership Enhancing Accelerated Degree) program is an adult learning degree completion component of Wisconsin Lutheran

College's new School of Adult & Graduate Studies. This high quality learning experience is designed for busy working adults who are seeking a flexible, convenient, and affordable accelerated degree from a highly respected, nationally ranked college.

The LEAD program allows you to take one class at a time, one night per week, with one affordable program cost. Our first major being offered is Business Management and Leadership.

- You can finish your bachelor's degree in Business and Leadership in less than two years!
- The program has flexible start dates.
- Students attend only one class per week.
- Individuals can receive credit for prior education and for learning from life experiences.
- Generous scholarships and financial aid packages are available.

- Tuition includes all your books and underground parking.

We are now accepting new students for our March 2010 class. If you enroll right now and attend this session, we will provide you with a **\$2,000 "LEAD the Way" scholarship** to help you get started. It's that simple, but we are only providing this scholarship for a very short time.

Don't delay. Contact us today and we can tailor a plan that works specifically for YOU – on your terms. **Two Pathways parents have already applied!**

Our admission counselor, Nathan Karst '00, would be happy to get you started. You can reach him at (414) 443-8896 or LEAD@wlc.edu. If you'd like to learn more about the LEAD program, you can also visit us online at wlc.edu/LEAD. We hope to see you in our March 2010 session!

Beating the Winter Doldrums

March 20 marks the first day of Spring in the northern hemisphere. Yet in Milwaukee, it is likely that no signs of Spring will show until the beginning of May!

Until the day that temperatures break 50° Fahrenheit and tulips break through the ground, we will wallow in one of the most difficult times of the year: the **Winter Doldrums**. This time of year is marked with low motivation, tiredness and restlessness as the cold and snowy weather drags on outside our frosty windows.



Students, teachers and parents all need a "pick-me-up" to help make this time of the year more productive and enjoyable.

Participating in activities and habits that re-energize and remind us of warmer days to come can help us break those feelings of sluggishness. Here are a few suggested activities that students and families can enjoy:

- Take weekly **pictures** of the same spot outside your home or window. Watch how the trees and grass become greener as Spring approaches!



- Plant **flowers**, such as marigolds, in cups around your home.
- **Volunteer** at a local non-profit organization or your school.
- Invite friends and family to a **barbecue** at your house, complete with common summer foods.
- Start doing your **spring cleaning**: focus on organizing closets and cleaning out cupboards.

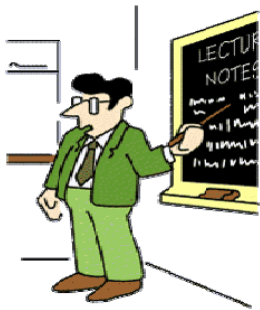
Be creative and get moving! The Winter Doldrums are almost over!

Study Skill of the Month: Ignoring Peer Distractions in Class

Being an attentive listener is critical to success at school. Research has found that humans spend between 45-50% of their awake time just listening, but for the hours spent at school, almost 100% of that time is spent listening!

A student who is a poor listener or can have serious issues in a classroom. Directions can be misunderstood or forgotten. Facts and concepts that a teacher presents go unheard which leads to lower grades.

One of the main reasons that students blame for poor listening is peer distractions. They often find themselves paying more attention to their classmates than the



lesson, or they find themselves getting caught up in a conversation taking place at an inappropriate time in class.

In middle school, socializing (hanging out and talking with friends) becomes very important and enjoyable. **However, there is a time and place when socializing is inappropriate: during class time at school.** Talking during class is disrespectful to the teacher who spent hours preparing for class, and it is unfair to the other students because it makes it more difficult to focus on the lesson.

Every lesson is intended for students to grow and learn so that they can succeed later in life. If a student is talking to friends instead of focusing on the lesson, then how will they learn the skills for later in life?

Here are a few tips to help students stay focused in class:

- If you can, sit toward the front



and center of the class. Being closer to the teacher is an incentive for you to focus.

- If a friend tries talking to you, politely tell them that you need to dedicate 100% of your attention on the lesson.

- Make sure to make eye contact with the teacher during the lesson; then you will be less tempted to look away and chat.

Your teacher will appreciate the respect that you show by listening, and hopefully your homework and grades will reflect your improved effort as well!

Value of the Month: Facing Adversity with Versatility

If your community was leveled by an earthquake, how would you react? Would you break-down and cry for help? Would you offer your hand in help?

When the 7.0 magnitude earthquake hit Haiti on January 12, the Haitians initially had no one to depend

“God promises
a safe landing,
not a calm passage “
-Bulgarian proverb

on for relief but themselves. The survivors faced the catastrophe with spirit, using whatever they had to dig through the rubble and aid victims.

The Haitians exhibited *versatility*, or flexibility, when facing disaster, or *adversity*. This March, think about how to find your inner-strength and approach problems with an open-mind and versatility.

Approaching problems with versatility and an open-mind ensures that we do not regret our reactions. *With an open-mind we can consider all solutions to the problem before we react hastily.* Furthermore, versatility helps us **discover alternative solutions** to a problem that we otherwise would not consider as possible.

Being versatile helps make the lives of others less stressful. Family members depend on one another to be versatile and flexible as they balance responsibilities. At the same time,

“It is easier to
prevent bad habits
than to break them.”
-Benjamin Franklin

parents expect their children to be flexible with their schedules and set aside time to do schoolwork and extra studying when needed. *Practicing versatility now will be benefit you in the long-term because flexibility and versatility are skills employers appreciate!*



Do you know the history of St. Patrick's Day?

St. Patrick's Day is about a lot more than just wearing green for a day and eating corned beef and cabbage for dinner. This holiday, celebrated in March 17, is actually a *religious* holiday that the Irish have recognized for more than 1,000 years! This day celebrates the patron saint of Ireland, Saint Patrick, who supposedly died on March 17, around 460 A.D. There are many legends surrounding the life and contributions of St. Patrick, but most of his life remains a mystery. What is clear is that he felt a strong desire to bring Christianity to Ireland's people, and he carried that out.

In the past, St. Patrick's Day celebrations had dancing and feasting because certain Lenten prohibitions were lifted on that day in Ireland. Today, the holiday is celebrated around the world with festivities including parades, concerts and fireworks. The biggest productions occur in North America, not Ireland! In fact, the world's first St. Patrick's Day parade took place in New York City in 1762!

It is safe to say that nowadays the holiday is commemorated more as a tribute to Irish heritage and pride than to St. Patrick himself. Nonetheless, anyone can participate in the holiday festivities; you do not need to be of Irish descent!

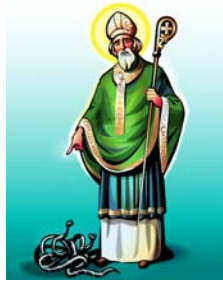
Research this holiday more at: www.history.com!

High School Updates

It's incredible to think that our first class of Pathways students is about to enter high school! Just about three months remain before graduation, and then they will no longer be "elementary students"!

Nearly every one of our 8th grade students has been accepted to at least one high school of their choice, if not more! Way to go! Parents, please let us know if there has been a change in your child's high school selection.

As an 8th grade student or parent, even after the student is accepted, make sure that you are checking with the school to ensure that all of the necessary paperwork is completed, that you are on their mailing list and that you are aware of all important high school dates throughout the spring and summer. We want your transition to high school to be as smooth as possible!



Pathways now has an emergency number you can call that will provide information on CPC and Saturday event cancellations! Just call **414-443-8837**.

THE STUDENTS' CORNER...

Thoughts, writing and artwork by the students



Perspective on Pathways
By: Taja Woods, 6th Grade

"What I like about Pathways is that it teaches me things that my school doesn't...If it's a Thursday and if it's the end of the day and I need help with my homework I can depend on Pathways to help me with it. I also like having to come here because it's not just a place where it's work and no play; you can come here to make friends, have fun and do fun stuff that also includes learning. You can learn and have fun at the same time!"

Two of our 6th graders are reading The Giver for their book club. The following drawings are their interpretations of the main characters.



By: Virgil Jones



By: Nathaniel Fuentes

Promoting
Achievement
Through
Higher-Learning
While
Advancing
Young
Scholars

*"The way I see it,
if you want the rainbow,
you gotta put up with the rain."
- Dolly Parton*



Parents, DON'T FORGET...

Agent Eric Szatkowski from the
WI Dept. of Justice
will speak on "The Dark Side of the Internet"
Saturday, April 17, 2010
from 9-11 a.m. at
Wisconsin Lutheran College
Due to the content: NO CHILDREN PLEASE

We're on the Web!
www.pathwaystocollege.info

Upcoming Events:

March 13, 2010

- All 6-8th grade students and 6th grade parents at Wisconsin Lutheran College, 9 am - 1 pm. Lunch is provided.

April 5-9, 2010

- NO College Prep Center this week!

April 10, 2010

- All 6-8th grade students and 6th grade parents at Wisconsin Lutheran College, 9 am - 1 pm. Lunch is provided.

April 17, 2010

- 7th & 8th grade students to St. John's Military Academy.
- 7th & 8th grade parents at WLC 9 am - 1 pm.
- 6th grade parents at WLC for presentation 9 - 11 am.

Questions about Pathways?

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