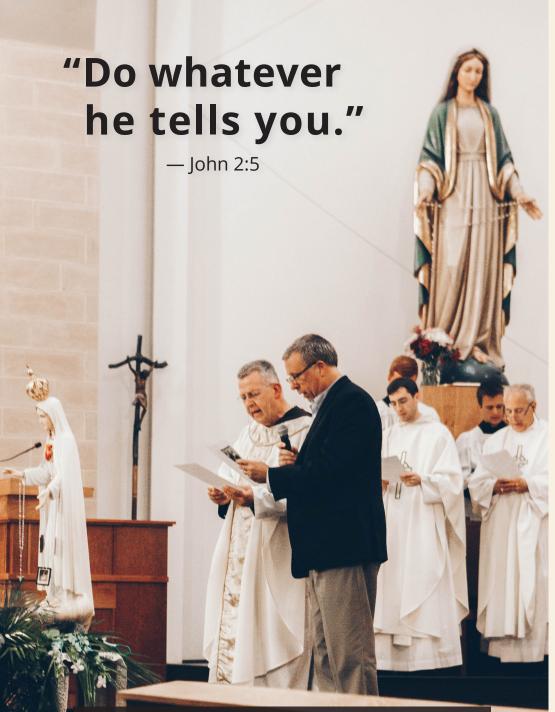




"Do whatever he tells you."

— John 2:5



Curtis Martin, FOCUS founder, praying the Act of Consecration prayer at New Staff Training, June 2017.

Dear Friends and Partners,

If you were to ask me to name one of the most profound collaborators with God in salvation history, Mary, our Blessed Mother, would be at the top of the list! There is no woman more beautiful, no mother more beloved, no saint more sublime and no intercessor after God more powerful than our Lady. She is, as the poet William Wordsworth put it, "Our tainted nature's solitary boast." She truly is blessed among women — and we are granted many blessings through her unconditional "yes" to God.

Good mothers always offer their children the best counsel. As the mother of the Church, Mary is no different. When we come seeking her help, the Blessed Mother gives us clear advice: "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). In every circumstance, Mary

never fails to point us to her Son. She models for us the complete trust we should place in Him and the faithfulness we should show in carrying out His will. It is by following Mary's advice — to do whatever Jesus tells us — that we continue to go deeper in our relationship with our Lord and pursue His Great Commission: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Mt. 28:19).

Good mothers always offer their children the best counsel. As the mother of the Church, Mary is no different.

This year, during the Church's celebration of the 100th anniversary of our Lady's appearances at Fatima, FOCUS was formally consecrated to Jesus through Mary, petitioning especially the graces offered at Fatima and Guadalupe. Since our founding in 1998, we have always sought to invoke the graces of our Blessed Mother in promoting the New Evangelization; our consecration was the result of a growing awareness that we are incapable of achieving our lofty goals without total reliance upon God's grace. When God chose to enter salvation history in the most definitive way, His work began with the words, "Hail Mary" — so we have entrusted ourselves completely to Jesus, through Mary. Mary is our mother, our encouragement and our guide in sharing the good news on college campuses and beyond. Mary was the first person to embrace Christ and the first person to share Him with others. We will strive to live out this consecration through prayer, particularly by praying the rosary with greater devotion and by growing in our devotion to Mary's Immaculate Heart. We will also offer the struggles, sufferings and sacrifices we face for the sake of all souls, especially those most in need of God's grace. Above all, we will continue to follow Mary's advice and follow her Son in all things, so that we may be drawn ever closer to Him.

As we embark on this new year's journey hand in hand with our Lady, we look back and give thanks to God for all the ways He has used FOCUS to share the Gospel this past year. Across the nation, we saw more than 500 missionaries walk alongside tens of thousands of students, encouraging them to become young leaders and witnesses for Christ in Bible studies, in their campus communities and in sharing life and encountering Christ most intimately in the sacraments. At SEEK2017, we had nearly 13,000 attendees from all over the country, and priests heard more than 6,000 confessions in the five days we were there. We saw the first fruits of our international campus expansion in Austria, and we look forward to where that effort will lead as we prepare for our next stage of growth.

I would also like to acknowledge the friends of FOCUS whose partnership has made an incredible difference on campuses everywhere. As you read through this report, I hope you are encouraged by the stories of the young people who have come to know the life-changing reality of Jesus Christ through FOCUS and the generation of worldchangers they are becoming. Together, through God's grace, we can help make the greatest difference in the lives of college students today.

May our Blessed Mother watch over you always.

Sincerely in Christ,

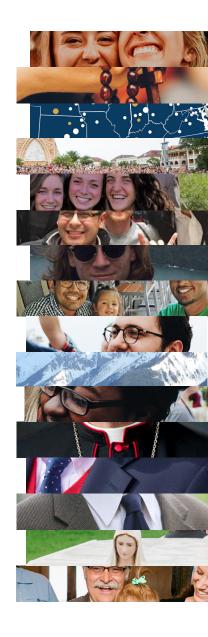
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Curtis A. Martin Founder

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To know Christ Jesus and fulfill **His Great Commission**.

The "Main Thing" Launching College Students into Lifelong Catholic Mission The Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) is a Catholic apostolate which shares the hope and joy of the Gospel with college students and sends them out into lifelong Catholic mission. Trained in Church teaching, prayer, sacred Scripture, evangelization and discipleship, FOCUS missionaries encounter students in friendship where they are, inviting them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and accompanying them as they pursue lives of virtue and excellence. Through Bible studies, outreach events, mission trips and one-on-one discipleship, missionaries inspire and build up students in the faith, sending them out to spread the good news and carry out the Great Commission for the rest of their lives: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations..." (Mt 28:19).

Who We Are



FOCUS' Fundamental Principles

Divine Intimacy. We center our lives on our relationship with the Triune God through Scripture, daily prayer and the sacraments.

Authentic Friendship. We share life with students through virtuous friendships, meeting them where they are so that we may encounter them on a deeper level.

Vision for Spiritual Multiplication. We communicate the method of evangelization modeled to us by the Master, Jesus Christ, who invested in a few and commissioned them to do the same.

FOCUS' Method of Evangelization

Win: Building authentic friendships that foster an encounter with Jesus, which draws people into a covenantal relationship with God.

Build: Forming people with the hearts, minds and habits of joyful, disciplined followers of Jesus.

Send: Inviting people to imitate Jesus and to be Spirit-filled evangelists by going on to win, build and send others.

4

United States Campuses

Alabama

Auburn University Troy University University of Alabama, Birmingham University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa University of South Alabama

Arizona

Northern Arizona University

California

California State University, Fullerton San Diego State University University of California, Berkeley University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Santa Barbara University of Southern California

Colorado

Colorado School of Mines Colorado State University Digital Campus University of Colorado, Boulder University of Northern Colorado

Connecticut

United States Coast Guard Academy University of Connecticut Western Connecticut State University

District of Columbia

George Washington University

Florida

Ave Maria University Florida Atlantic University University of Florida University of North Florida

Georgia

Georgia College & State University Georgia Institute of Technology Georgia Southern University

Idaho

Boise State University Idaho State University University of Idaho

Illinois

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Indiana

Ball State University DePauw University Indiana University, Bloomington* Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis

Valparaiso University*

lowa

Drake University Iowa State University* Loras College

Kansas

Benedictine College Emporia State University Kansas State University* University of Kansas, Lawrence Wichita State University

Kentucky

Murray State University University of Kentucky Western Kentucky University*

Louisiana

Louisiana State University* McNeese State University Nicholls State University Northwestern State University Tulane University University of Louisiana, Lafayette

Maine

University of Maine, Orono

Maryland

Mount St. Mary's Towson University United States Naval Academy University of Maryland, College Park

Massachusetts

Boston University Harvard University Massachusetts Institute of Technology University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Michigan

Central Michigan University Eastern Michigan University Michigan Technological University Western Michigan University*

Minnesota

Minnesota State University, Mankato St. John's University University of Minnesota, Duluth Winona State University

Mississippi

University of Mississippi University of Southern Mississippi*

Missouri

Northwest Missouri State University Southeast Missouri State University University of Missouri

Nebraska

University of Nebraska, Lincoln University of Nebraska, Omaha University of Nebraska at Kearney* Wayne State College

New Jersey

Montclair State University Ramapo College Seton Hall University

New York

Columbia University New York University United States Military Academy University of Rochester*

North Carolina Belmont Abbey College

North Dakota

North Dakota State University University of Mary University of North Dakota

Ohio

Bowling Green University* Franciscan University University of Toledo* Wright State University

Oklahoma

Oklahoma State University University of Oklahoma University of Tulsa

Oregon University of Oregon

Pennsylvania

Carnegie Mellon University Slippery Rock University* Temple University University of Pittsburgh West Chester University*

Rhode Island

Brown University University of Rhode Island

South Dakota

Northern State University South Dakota State University University of South Dakota

Where We Serve 2017-2018 Campuses

Tennessee

University of Tennessee University of Memphis Vanderbilt University

Texas

Baylor University Southern Methodist University Stephen F. Austin State University Texas A&M University, College Station Texas State University University of North Texas University of Texas, Austin University of Texas, Tyler

Vermont

University of Vermont

Virginia

George Mason University James Madison University University of Virginia Virginia Tech University

Washington

Eastern Washington University Washington State University Western Washington University

West Virginia

West Virginia University

Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin, La Crosse University of Wisconsin, Madison University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh University of Wisconsin, Platteville



Austria

University of Graz University of Vienna

England Southampton University*

Ireland Dublin*



FOCUS Momentum

Thanks be to God, FOCUS continues to experience tremendous growth! See how this momentum has had a multiplying impact on our efforts in the past four years alone:

Of the 138 campuses we serve, **more than half (72)** have been added since 2013.

The number of missionaries serving students on campus grew from 355 in 2013 to more than **660** in 2017 – 2018.

Nearly **50%** of the current 24,000 FOCUS alumni graduated between 2013 and 2017.

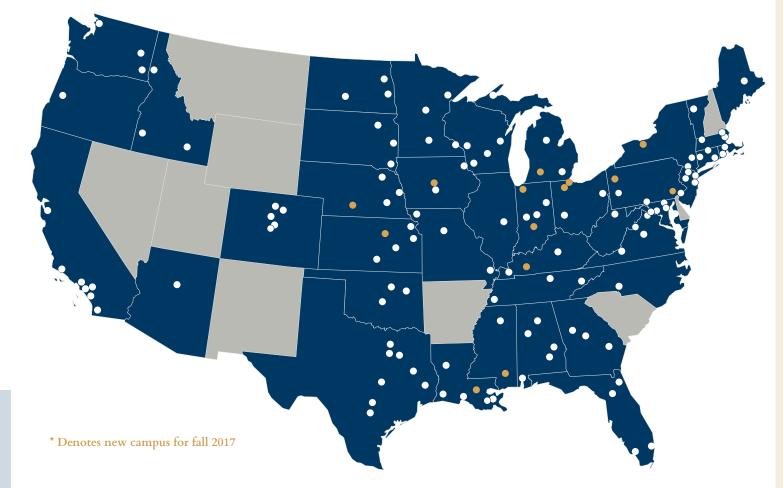
To date, **674** FOCUS alumni have made decisions to pursue the priesthood or religious life. **40%** of those alumni **(274)** made the decision in the last four years.



Since 2013, both the number of mission trips and mission trip participants have increased by approximately **30%**.



Nearly **13,000** people attended SEEK2017. This is **more than twice** the number who attended SEEK just four years earlier (6,100).





"I've had a number of missionaries who have made a huge impact on my life and led me toward living for the will of God. It's brought me so much joy."

— Branson Schroeder, first-year missionary

"My 'yes' to FOCUS was saying 'yes' to radically serving Jesus and His Church and being formed for lifelong mission."

— Meghan Mitchell, first-year missionary

Our Missionaries

FOCUS' New Staff Training (NST) is five weeks of comprehensive formation that equips missionaries for their service on campus. With many hours of training in sacred Scripture, prayer, Church teaching, leadership, stewardship, evangelization and discipleship, these missionaries go out to encounter students wherever they are, inviting them into a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. "I joined FOCUS primarily from a strong recognition that God was asking me to meet a major need in our world."

— Todd Schmidt, second-year missionary

"I want to become a missionary because I've been filled with love and joy that I wasn't able to find anywhere else, and now I just want that for everyone."

— Erin Schilmoeller, first-year missionary



A Missionary Focus



Scanlan

University

Team Director, Texas A&M

Deeper than a Job Description

When she was a freshman, Fallon was considering leaving the Church in search of a "livelier" faith. It wasn't until Kelsey Skoch, a FOCUS missionary, invested in Fallon that she realized being Catholic

could be exciting. "Before Kelsey," she said, "I had never seen anybody who was young be a joyful Catholic."

Fallon's time with Kelsey inspired her to live out her faith. After graduation, "I had never seen anybody who was young be a joyful Catholic."

Fallon served as a missionary for two years and is now a missionary team director at Texas A&M University. "[Being a missionary] changes every conversation I have, every moment of my day," she said. "It will cause me to live lifelong mission in whatever context. It's deeper than a job description; it's an identity."

Fallon shared Christ with students in the same way Kelsey did with her — and because Fallon taught her students how to invest in others too, Fallon has impacted those whom she hasn't even met. This past spring, she received this message from a girl whose life was changed because of someone Fallon had invested in:

"I didn't know you very well but . . . because you invested in Molly, my life was eventually changed . . . I had no desire to pursue my faith in college . . . I would never have returned to Christ if people before me hadn't lived this mission. My eternity was changed because people were willing to invest in me . . ."





Michael Kremske Alumnus FOCUS Missionary

"Being a missionary with FOCUS has changed everything for me . . . [It has changed] how I relate to others and helps me see the living Christ in those relationships, because Jesus is a living relationship."



Andres (far right) and his friend, Jack Farley (second from the right) experienced their faith in a profound way with other SEEK2017 attendees in San Antonio, Texas.

A Dream Come True at SEEK2017

Of the nearly 13,000 people who came to SEEK2017 in San Antonio, Andres Sosa went knowing only one person: David Driskill, the FOCUS missionary who'd invited him. Andres' first days at SEEK were incredible — but on the third night, he experienced something particularly profound.

"I had a dream that I was in a very big room with only one light



Andres P. Sosa Aguilar University of Texas-Austin, Freshman Texas Longhorns baseball player

shining," said Andres. "Then a priest approached me. He asked me, 'Do you want to experience the best feeling you've ever had in your life?"

Andres wasn't sure what to make of the dream — but the next day, Jack Farley, a student whom Andres befriended at SEEK, mentioned there would be adoration and confession later that night. Andres didn't know what adoration was, and he hadn't gone to confession in years. Jack assured him the experience would be amazing.

At SEEK, hundreds of priests heard more than 6,000 confessions. With Jack's encouragement, Andres went to confession that night, too. "I felt like I was about to play the biggest baseball game in my life, times a hundred," he said.

Andres sat with a priest named Fr. Tom, and told him his life story. "Afterward," said Andres, "Fr. Tom told me, 'The Lord wanted you to be here. Jesus is dancing because you're back home.""

SEEK may only be five days long, but the conference has lasting impact on all who attend. For Andres, that night at SEEK was literally a dream come true. For the thousands of other attendees, SEEK helped them realize the deeper reality of Jesus' love and mercy — and that truth will continue to accompany them on campus as they strive to pursue holiness and share Christ's love with others.

SEEK: What Moves You

FOCUS Missions

Every year, FOCUS Missions leads hundreds of students to a profound encounter with Christ through service to the poor in countries across the globe.



Galen and his fellow mission trip participants encountered Christ through the sacraments and the poor while serving in Trinidad, South America.





Galen Gossman Benedictine College, Class of 2017 FOCUS Missions participant

Encountering Christ on Mission

Galen Gossman was the last student to sign up, weeks after the deadline, after a missionary offered to fundraise the cost of his trip. A soccer player at Benedictine, Galen had been on other service trips before but had not been baptized. On the first night of his FOCUS mission trip to Trinidad, with low expectations, Galen asked God to reveal to him his purpose on the trip.

The Trinidad mission trip mixed faith with sports, serving the local community. The participants were able to visit a Catholic church on a mountainside near the mission site, where they celebrated Mass and prayed in adoration every day. The trip participants also played soccer with the kids and shared their faith with the locals. Having played soccer his whole life, Galen felt the soccer camp was a natural fit for him — but daily Mass and adoration were less familiar.

A couple days into the trip, as Galen sat in adoration, he felt God speak to him, affirming that this was exactly where he was meant to be. Galen was overcome with contentment as he encountered Jesus Christ in adoration. Many of the questions he'd been asking about the faith and his life's purpose were answered.

After a conversation with the mission chaplain, Galen decided to enter the Catholic Church. At Easter, he became Catholic, receiving the sacraments of initiation with some of his fellow Trinidad mission trip participants by his side.



Jimmy & Melissa Chang St. John Neumann Catholic Church, Charlotte, NC Parish Missionaries

Living Their Vocation with Great Love

Prior to serving with FOCUS, both Jimmy and Melissa had been young professionals in the workforce — though both felt called to something more. Serving as parish missionaries was just the kind of opportunity they'd been looking for.

"It seemed to us an answer to our prayers!" said Jimmy. "We had desired to serve together as family reaching other families."

Today, Jimmy and Melissa have answered the unique call to serve both through their vocation as a married couple and as missionaries at St. John Neumann Parish. "As spouses and parents, parish-based mission work offers a unique opportunity to be bold and counter-cultural Christian witnesses by simply living out our vocation with great love," said Melissa. "In the parish, we have the capacity to broaden our efforts to reach people in every walk of life with tremendously diverse backgrounds."

Jimmy and Melissa have seen firsthand the difference personal investment can make in a parish setting. As Jimmy described, "Young parents have been empowered to teach their children as they gain a deeper understanding of Scripture and Church teachings. More men and women are grasping what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and live as missionary disciples. I have been able to connect with parishioners from many different cultural backgrounds and have been working closely with the rapidly growing Hispanic community."



"As we continue to build authentic friendships with parishioners, we accompany them in life's challenges, losses, joys, fears and uncertainties," added Melissa. "In and through this investment, men and women have begun to understand more fully the path of lifelong discipleship with Christ."

This approach of authentic friendship and discipleship has been the

heart of FOCUS' mission on college campuses for nearly twenty years. As FOCUS missionaries invest deeply in parishes across the country, they encourage others to place Christ at the center of their lives. So far, the effect in the parish has been profound.

"lt's an incredible joy to see the Holy Spirit at work..."

"It's an incredible joy to see the Holy Spirit at work as we pray with people, study Scripture together and share life together," said Jimmy. "We have a front-row seat to the daily transformations taking place as we accompany parishioners in lifelong mission."

FOCUS has fostered hundreds of religious vocations and has also inspired countless vocations to holy married life. Our parish missionaries are examples of how these vocations are lived out faithfully in parishes all over the country.

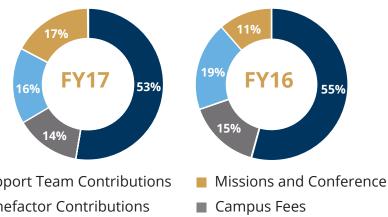
Parish Outreach

Financial Highlights

The providential care of our Lord has once again guided us in our efforts this year! The stories shared in the previous pages demonstrate how the financial base of our apostolate continues to bless and support our missionaries' efforts on campus and in parishes. For the year ahead, which will be FOCUS' 20th anniversary, we are prepared to continue our growth and reach even more souls with Christ's love.

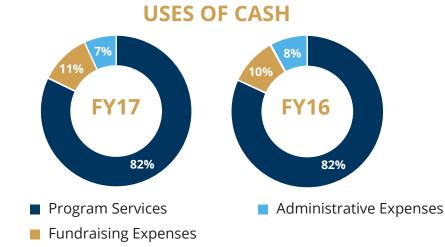


SOURCES OF CASH



SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

FISCAL YEAR ENDING	5/31/17	5/31/16		
Campus Revenue Conference Revenue Missions Revenue Total Revenue	\$48,367,382 \$5,029,059 \$4,220,871 \$57,617,312	\$40,764,695 \$1,606,434 \$3,186,466 \$45,557,595		
Campus Expense Conference Expense Missions Expense Total Expense	\$48,927,748 \$4,543,647 \$4,095,204 \$57,566,599	\$39,433,280 \$1,420,631 \$3,011,760 \$43,865,671		
Total Change in Net Assets	\$\$50,713	\$1,691,924		



Strength for the Church Spotlight on Gail Werner-Robertson

Many people encounter FOCUS for the first time through someone they know who is familiar with the apostolate. Gail happened to meet Curtis Martin through a mutual friend, Fr. Robert Matya at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln — and for her, it was a timely encounter.

"My kids were college-aged around that time," said Gail. "It was great timing meeting FOCUS when I did because I was frustrated to see what my kids were being exposed to."

FOCUS missionaries walk alongside students — sharing life, answering questions and inviting them to pursue a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. When Gail saw how the missionaries served students, she began to recognize how significant an impact could be made on college campuses. "I was really intrigued and



Gail and her husband, Scott, renewing their marriage vows together with their children (left to right): Brynn, Cleighton, Jared and Afton. wanted to delve in more," she said. "I thought, if this really is happening the way it looks like it's happening, and if you can do it on more campuses, this would be life-changing."

Following her first exposure, Gail began to work more closely with FOCUS. One of the more memorable experiences Gail had with FOCUS was attending SEEK2017, FOCUS' latest national conference.

"It was incredible not only to see those kids opening their hearts to the faith, but also to experience it myself," she said. "If you had a hardened heart before SEEK, you didn't by the end."

In contrast to the degradation of society and the challenges against tried-and-true Catholic values, FOCUS missionaries choose to live and serve in a radically "[SEEK] was incredible not only to see those kids opening their hearts to the faith, but also to experience it myself..."

different way. For Gail, watching how FOCUS has grown and witnessing how the missionaries continue to reach so many students is a sign of great hope for the Church.

"I think for the future, not just for our Church but for our society, it's critically important that we help young people get their moral bearing, which is connected to their faith," she said. "The way FOCUS has grown, I believe it will really help our Church maintain its strength. If you care about our country and if you care about our faith life, there's not a much better organization to support."

Gail is a member of FOCUS' President's Advancement Council, whose members support FOCUS through their dedication, unique expertise and strategic insight. Meet all the members of the President's Advancement Council on pg. 21.

An Apostolate Worth Knowing

Spotlight on the Flanigan Family

From early on, the Flanigans have worked with FOCUS as a family. Bob Flanigan first learned about FOCUS through his sister, Sr. Louise Marie Flanigan, a religious serving in Alabama who had attended a FOCUS conference. Though he'd not heard anything about FOCUS before then, Bob was curious about FOCUS' mission.

"For me, it took some time to talk to people, asking a lot of questions about FOCUS and of the people whom I met — really trying to understand how the organization works," said Bob. "Even the name is interesting. What does it mean, 'Fellowship of Catholic University Students'? How is this organization reaching out to students, and how is it working with the chaplains and ministries already serving them?"



Bob Flanigan (left) and Dcn. Tim Flanigan (right) with Curtis Martin, receiving the St. Joseph Award posthumously granted to their father, Peter Flanigan, at SLS16.

As their friendship with FOCUS began to grow, Bob and the Flanigans had the chance to see just how unique FOCUS' approach to evangelization was. "FOCUS is the most innovative Catholic apostolate around today," said Bob. "It's innovative in terms of its outreach to students, its relational discipleship, its self-funding model...It's something everyone who's serious about supporting the Church and the Catholic faith today

should take a good look at."

Seeing thousands of students come to FOCUS national conferences and visiting the support staff at the national headquarters in Denver are a few of the most meaningful experiences with FOCUS that come to mind for Bob.

"I have great hope for FOCUS and for the Church."

Ultimately, though, the greatest experience has been the chance to meet more and more people who have been inspired and equipped by FOCUS to carry out lifelong mission.

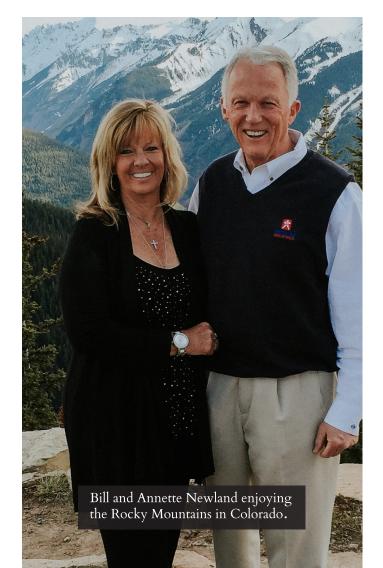
"The more I get to know FOCUS, the more I get to meet people who are alive and on fire for their faith, and who are finding through FOCUS a way to share that faith," said Bob. "What's inspired us to work closely with FOCUS and support it financially is that the emphasis is on evangelization, sharing the Gospel and inviting others to live in the fullness of the Catholic faith."

For the Flanigans, walking alongside FOCUS throughout the years has given them a great opportunity to work as a family in support of a cause that matters deeply to them: sharing the good news.

"It keeps us excited about FOCUS and what the organization is doing," said Bob. "I have great hope for FOCUS and for the Church."

The Way to True Happiness

Fifteen years ago, when Bill first learned about FOCUS, he didn't give much thought to it. He assumed it was a positive initiative, but nothing long-lasting.



"I thought it was a small group of wellintentioned young people trying to pull other young people into the faith," he said. "The more I got to know FOCUS, the more I quickly learned it was actually a sustainable organization."

As Bill became more involved with FOCUS, he realized the apostolate was offering something different. Comparing it to a business model, he saw that spiritual multiplication — the method through which FOCUS missionaries encounter students on campus, accompany them and send them out to evangelize others — had dramatically high output against what was put into each missionary's training. Gradually, Bill's own spiritual life and his relationship with Christ grew richer through his participation on FOCUS' Board of Directors and the friendships he made through the organization. "My wife and I have developed great friendships with people our age [in FOCUS]," said Bill. "We all have something in common that we support, and that means a lot to us. That actually is one of the most important aspects of my association with FOCUS."

Every missionary's central desire is to answer Christ's call to serve others and make disciples of all nations. Jesus gave the Church the greatest model to follow when He gave His Spotlight on Bill Newland

life for the world. Following His example, the missionaries offer their lives for the sake of others. "Our Church has taught us the way to true happiness is serving others," said Bill. "You look at FOCUS, and you see that's what the spiritual multiplication model is all about: We're here to serve others."

Bill has great expectations that FOCUS will continue to find ways to effectively encounter those who are hardest to reach. He hopes those in FOCUS can stand as a shining example of faith in the secular world, bringing people from all walks of life into a deeper relationship with Christ.

"The secular world in which we live can take away the joy and optimism that God has intended for us as we were created in His likeness and image," he said. "The personal commitment of our leadership, staff and missionaries to a Christ-centered life provide that beacon of hope to those who live in a dark world."

Bill is a member of FOCUS' Board of Directors. The board offers direction, support and counsel to FOCUS' leadership to help the apostolate launch college students into lifelong Catholic mission. Meet all the members of the board on pg. 20.

In Thanks

Thank you for responding to the call to "do whatever He tells you" with your generosity.

Special Thanks

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FOCUS Leadership



CURTIS MARTIN is the founder and CEO of FOCUS. Curtis holds a master's degree in theology and is the author of the best-selling book, "Made for More." In 2004, Curtis and his wife, Michaelann, were awarded the Benemerenti Medal by Pope Saint John Paul II for their outstanding service to the Church. In 2011, Pope Benedict XVI appointed Curtis as a Consultor to the Pontifical Council of the New Evangelization. Curtis and Michaelann live in Westminster, Colorado. They have been blessed with nine children and one grandchild.



CRAIG MILLER is the president of FOCUS. In 2003, after a remarkably successful career in Silicon Valley that included leading sales and cooperative marketing for Cisco's global accounts, Craig accepted Curtis' invitation to help manage the operational needs created by FOCUS' growth. Since then, Craig has overseen all aspects of operations, administration, development and finance. He lives in Genesee, Colorado, with his wife, Melissa, and four of their six children.





JOE HENSLER joined the FOCUS leadership team in 2012 after a 19-year career in marketing and training at the Procter & Gamble Company, and he now serves FOCUS as vice president of talent and leadership development. In this role, he uses his wide range of experience in business, non-profit and religious organizations to build the next generation of leaders across all levels of FOCUS. Joe holds bachelor's and master's degrees in business from Indiana University and a master's degree in pastoral ministry from the Athenaeum of Ohio. A native of St. Louis, Joe now resides in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, with his wife, Becky, and their five children.

FR. JOHN LAGER, O.F.M. Cap., has served FOCUS as the organization's national chaplain since 2013. Ordained in 1979, Fr. John has served the Capuchins as an associate pastor, a high school campus minister and as the Order's director of development and missionary activity. He has also served as the executive director of the Samaritan House of Denver, vocation director for the Capuchin Province of Mid-America and co¬founder of Marked Men for Christ ministry.



BRENDA CANNELLA is vice president of finance for FOCUS. Prior to joining FOCUS, Brenda was a principal in an executive search firm specializing in finance and accounting leadership roles. Brenda began her career in the Houston office of a Big Four public accounting firm. Brenda holds a Bachelor of Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting from the University of Houston and is a CPA formerly licensed in Texas. Brenda lives in Erie, Colorado, with her husband, Troy, and their five children.



JOHN ZIMMER is vice president of apostolic development and national area vice president for FOCUS. Since joining FOCUS in 1999, he has served in a variety of roles — including serving as a campus missionary, directing the national apostolate and overseeing the training and formation of the missionary staff. John speaks and teaches throughout the country on leadership, evangelization and apologetics. John lives in Centennial, Colorado, with his wife, Barbara, and their seven children.

To Jesus through Mary

A Special Consecration of the FOCUS Apostolate



This year, we observe the 100th anniversary of the Virgin Mary's miraculous appearances to the shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. This upcoming school year will also mark FOCUS' 20th year of missionary work on college campuses. In light of such a significant anniversary of the Church and such a profound milestone for the apostolate, we wanted to mark in a special way the many blessings FOCUS has received through the Lord's grace and our Lady's intercession. We likewise wished to demonstrate our continued dedication to the mission of the New Evangelization.

On June 13, during New Staff Training at Ave Maria, Florida, FOCUS was officially consecrated to Jesus through Mary, petitioning the graces of both Fatima and Guadalupe. Throughout this perpetual consecration, which will be renewed each year on June 13 and December 12, FOCUS will call upon our Blessed Mother's assistance for the deeper sanctification of missionaries and staff and their work, along with a special blessing for the apostolate as a whole. From this point on, FOCUS will continue to encourage staff to fulfill Our Lady of Fatima's request to pray, suffer, offer penances and make sacrifices for all souls. FOCUS will also encourage all missionaries to find special recourse through Our Lady of Guadalupe when engaging in efforts to spiritually multiply.

On behalf of FOCUS and all those whom we serve, we extend a heartfelt thanks to all those who have supported and who continue to support our mission. May the Lord bless you and keep you.

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Mr. & Mrs. John and Rosemary Priester at the inaugural Lisieux Legacy Society luncheon.

The Lisieux Legacy Society recognizes individuals who have included FOCUS in their estate plan. Because of their generosity, Lisieux Legacy Society members ensure that the Gospel will be shared by FOCUS missionaries for years to come and that many Christ-centered leaders will be raised for the Church. FOCUS may benefit as a beneficiary of wills and trusts, gift annuities, life insurance, personal property, retirement plans and more. For more information, contact Joshua Gideon, Sr. Director of Planned Giving, at 303-551-7413 or joshua.gideon@focus.org.

We regret any omissions or errors. Please notify us if you have designated FOCUS as a beneficiary or other planned gift. Anonymous gifts are treated confidentially.

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Lisieux Legacy Society

Giving Back the Blessings

Spotlight on Pasquale and Patricia Girolamo

Sending a child to college can raise all sorts of concerns for parents. For Pasquale and Patricia, sending their daughter Cesca to college brought on fears for the negative things she might be exposed to and how that in turn might affect her faith.

"She was ready to take on the world — but I knew she didn't know what was going on out there yet. I was nervous about that," said Patricia. "FOCUS was like a breath of fresh air and gave us hope."

When they heard about the ways Cesca was becoming involved with FOCUS on campus, they were very excited. Pasquale and Patricia began supporting Miko Sy, a missionary on

Cesca's campus. Each time they saw a new photo of Miko's group of students in his newsletters, they saw that number of students growing and recognized just how deep his impact was on campus.

"I was proud to be part of that," said Patricia. "I'd say, 'Wow, this guy rocks. Look at what he's doing!"

Whether it was watching Cesca's own discipleship group meeting in their living room or seeing thousands of faithful Catholics at SEEK2017, Pasquale and Patricia have witnessed how FOCUS has changed lives. And to them, the role they play on behalf of the apostolate is very clear.

"The missionaries — they're the tip of the spear, and we're the shaft," said Patricia. "The tip can't go anywhere without the shaft, but the shaft's no good without the tip. The tip's doing the work. We're just helping it go forward."

"FOCUS was like a breath of fresh air and gave us hope."

"With what we've been given, it's giving back some of the blessings," added Pasquale. "We were blessed because of our faith, and it was easy to give back."

Their hope and vision for FOCUS is to see graduates in parishes and in industries all across the country with the foundation that's taught them how to pray, how to live virtuously and how to evangelize, too.



"The FOCUS experience shows that faith can be the foundation of your everyday life, and it really affects people around you in such a positive way," said Pasquale. "You can't help but want to be part of something like that."

Pasquale and Patricia Girolamo are members of FOCUS' Lisieux Legacy Society. They made a bequest of their IRA to FOCUS in 2017. Learn more about how you can support FOCUS through a planned gift by visiting focus.giftlegacy.com. "Sometimes we know what we have to do, but we lack the courage to do it. Let us learn from Mary how to make decisions, trusting in the Lord."

— Pope Francis

