

— Join Our St. Francis Communities —



High School Youth summer service was in northern Michigan, while middle school YES ministry serves at a local YMCA program.



St. Francis of Assisi School annual **Spring Arts Festival** showcased the *Fine Arts Programs* -music, drama and the visual arts. Fabulous expressions of artistic creativity by St. Francis students in grades K-8 were on display throughout the school. While the 4th grade classes delighted audiences with an amazing performance of the musical "Charlie & the Chocolate Factory."



A lamb visits Vacation Bible School



Seniors @ St. Francis meet monthly



Men improved their fathering skills with "Velvet & Steel" author, John Ream.



Singles & Young Adults

"OPEN GYM"



RENEW: Faith Sharing in Small Communities

I first encountered a Faith Sharing Group at St. Francis when I registered for the "Come and See" program for returning Catholics. At the time, I was reluctant to join a group to discern whether I wanted to become a participating Catholic again. I had it in my mind that the process should be a solitary one, but I decided to attend the group and be open to the experience.

At the first meeting Father Jim and Charline List, the Adult Coordinator, explained the necessity of *community* in being a Catholic and how we need each other to experience our faith. They both acknowledged how difficult it was to feel a sense of community at a large parish like St. Francis, and a good way to begin the journey was to belong to a small group with people who shared similar interests.

At the end of the program our group decided it was over too soon and we would like to continue meeting. . . . It has not been a sudden intimacy but rather a coming together to share, pray, reflect and study. When we meet, I am reminded of the early Church when Catholics met in each others homes to share their Faith and to pray and care for each other.

By Susan Jacobson

SIGN UP for RENEW in September.
Small-groups begin the week of October 5



Our social ministry volunteers learn skills to teach others how to budget & resolve credit/debt problems.

