



1st Communion Song by Mandie DeVries:

We have a YouTube celebrity in our midst: Mandie DeVries. Mandie has a song she created to prepare children in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium for the First Holy Communion. Mandie shared this song at our CLADD East meeting earlier this month. However it is also on YouTube and you can find it at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EH7om8Se5o8>

Thank you Mandie for sharing your talent and your song with our catechetical community.

My Confession Card Resource by Sheila Adams from Sacred Heart in Chariton:

Sheila Adams has included a resource that can be duplicated and laminated to help children and teens with the Sacrament of Confession. It includes great tips on making a good confession, the formula for beginning a confession, the Act of Contrition and an Examination of Conscience. In fact, Sheila shared that she had to make up extras for her local Knights of Columbus chapter who wanted to keep them in their wallet for the next time each of them go to confession. This resource and the directions are attached to this newsletter.

All CLADD Closing Ceremony and Awards:

Attached is the flyer for our upcoming closing of the catechetical year session of CLADD which will be held on May 13 at Saint Francis of Assisi parish in West Des Moines. The day includes:

- Mass,
- service awards from 5 years up to 25 years,
- a special exemplary service award for Dr. Cheryl Fournier,
- the annual CLADD Swap Shop – bring resources you no longer use and exchange them with new treasures for your community
- a program featuring Cindy Shaw from the Emmaus House Retreat Center in Des Moines
- a delicious lunch catered by Hy-Vee

We will also be saying good bye to Margie Livermore (St. John parish in Adel) who will be switching careers and Ann Mertes who is retiring as the Adult Faith Formation Director at Saint Francis of Assisi parish.

We would like to provide Cheryl with a wonderful appreciation gift for her service to each of us and our parish communities in the Diocese of Des Moines. Whether you will be able to attend the May 13 celebration or not, please send a contribution for her goodbye gift to:

Sherry Simmer  
Diocese of Des Moines  
601 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Julie Williamson (Saints Peter & Paul parish in Atlantic) is quilting a wall hanging for her and we will also provide a beautiful pen set (fountain and regular) for her (see the picture below.) Please send this as soon as you can so we can have it for Cheryl on May 13.



Discipleship Focused Youth Ministry Webinar with Eric Gallagher (Sioux Falls Diocese) May 27 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm:

Eric Gallagher, Diocesan Director for the Office of Youth Discipleship and Evangelization for the Diocese of Sioux Falls, will be sharing his approach for discipleship focused youth ministry beginning May 27 and continuing with our Youth Ministry Kickoff in late summer.

The webinar is an introduction to the fundamentals of a Discipleship Focused Youth Ministry Model that will be continued at the kickoff and at an evening event as well. There is no cost to the webinar but we are limited to 100 participants. To attend this digital webinar follow the instructions below. Your computer will need a microphone however, Eric will be the only person who will require a camera.

To join the webinar from your computer, tablet or smartphone, go to:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/244089101>

**You can also dial in using your phone.**

United States : +1 (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 244-089-101

Please let me know if you have any questions by contacting me at [jgaffney@dmdiocese.org](mailto:jgaffney@dmdiocese.org). A flyer is attached to this e-newsletter for more information as well.

Need a *Call to Faith* (OSV) Resources Replenished?:

Lynda Marshall from St. Mary's parish in Shenandoah is no longer using the *Call to Faith* series from OSV. They have purchased the new series *Alive in Christ*. They would like to sell their curriculum. All books are the Revised Order of the Mass.

- Student Books retail for \$18.95, asking \$15.00 each (New)
- Teacher Books retail for \$62.95, asking \$25.00 each (Used)
- CD's retail for \$15.95, asking \$10.00 each (Used)

Please contact Lynda at [laamjeg@hotmail.com](mailto:laamjeg@hotmail.com) if you would like to take some of her curriculum for your parish community.

*Prayer after receiving Holy Communion (Loyola Press):*

Thank you, Jesus, for giving yourself to me.  
Place in my heart a great love for the Eucharist.

Amen

