



# SWS ALUMNI AND FRIEND CONNECTIONS

Winter 2015 . Volume 6, Issue 1

Saint Wenceslaus School Alumni Association & Friends \* 227 Main Street East \* New Prague, MN \* 56071



Celebrating  
100 years  
of this building!  
~135 years of education  
Est. 1878~



## Second All-School Reunion was a Huge Success

More than 250 alumni and friends of SWS enjoyed a fun night back in school. The evening started with self walking tours in the school while guests stopped by the wine and cheese table. Alumni, in particular, enjoyed looking in the classrooms and reminiscing about school events, past teachers and lots of school shenanigans. The party then moved to the gym area where displays of memorabilia lined the walls. A home cooked meal was served by caterer and alumni, George Kukacka '76, and then entertainment by a small group of young alumni from the years of 2011-2014 was enjoyed. They were accompanied by friends of the school; Katherine Gorr, Sandy Gallagher, and David Baird. A special song was written by Jacinta (Cindy) Timmons Carlson '69, and the young alumni singers lead the group through the fun chorus! The program was emceed by Alumni Chuck Nickolay '71 who is also the current mayor of New Prague and the chairperson of the Alumni Association and Friends. Alumni Robert Vanesek '63 updated the guests about the new foundation that has been set up for the school. Read more about the SWS Foundation. Some guests received prizes for traveling the furthest, raising funds for the school, being a long time staff member, and the like. The guests who graduated in the 1950's were among the largest group represented at the event, followed by the guests from the 1960's and 1970's, but guests came who graduated in the 1930's through 2014. Finally a video that represented all classes for the past 100 years was shown to the group ( developed by alumni Dorene Dohmen Vogland '69).



First School Building 1878

## Thanks to the Reunion Planning Committee

- Leah Zvanovec
- Kyle Weiskus
- Annie Zvanovec Schmitz '88
- Cindy Busch Schmitz '77
- Doreen Dohmen Voglund '69
- Joan Novonty Blenker '86

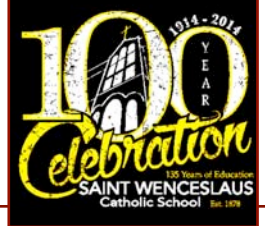
...and the entire Alumni Association and Friends Board of Directors (Names on back)

Saint Wenceslaus Catholic School!  
JOY fills our Schen!  
Jesus  
Others  
You



## Class of 1969 Friends at the reunion

- Lois ( Tudy) Bohnsack
- Cheryl Svoboda Bastyr
- Dorene Dohmen Vogland
- Jerry Walerius
- Ron Bisek



## SWS 1914-2014

### Centennial Celebration DVD For Sale

Sit back and relax as you journey back to the innocent days of your childhood spent at St. Wenceslaus School. Your memories will come to life as you see pictures from 1914 through 2014 of *all* of the graduating classes, the nuns, priests, classmates, student activities, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion and of the building itself – inside and out, all while listening to the music of 'The O'Neill Brothers', both graduates of SWS. There are also pictures from 1914 of the blessing of the cornerstone and the construction workers.

The 'SWS Centennial Celebration' DVD is a 'must-have' for anyone who attended SWS. If you graduated from SWS, you are in this DVD! It is guaranteed to bring a smile to your face and perhaps a tear to your eye. Order one for yourself, family members and friends who have attended SWS - what a special and cherished keepsake it will be.

The \$10 DVD can be purchased at the SWS office, 952-758-3133, at 'The O'Neill Brothers' store in New Prague or through Dorene Dohmen Vogland (Class of 1969) at 952-884-6094.

### St. Wenceslaus School Endowment Foundation Update

It has been a Grand 136 years of St. Wenceslaus School in New Prague! Our school administration has always worked hard to maintain the success of the Catholic school that we have all been apart of! Many of the finest years of our lives were spent right inside the walls of St. Wenceslaus! For sure, the time at St. Wenceslaus School was educational and spiritual but also very enjoyable. Not many alumni would state, "Those were the worst years of our lives." In fact, we have heard from many graduates stating, "Those were the Best Years of our lives."

Although the mission of the school remains the same, there have also been some very important changes! When the majority of us were attending the school, we were taught by Franciscan Sisters who had committed to our spiritual and academic education! In the late 1960's and early 1970's the ability to supply the good sisters to fill the teaching positions was declining and along came the lay staff that has been in place since the late 1990's.



1957 School Staff

Our Parish changed in supporting this important ministry to the children along the way as well. The parish, over the years, increased financial support to create an Award Winning Educational system. But with the changing financial times that we live in today, the support that our parish can render now has declined! So with the changes, good or bad, St. Wenceslaus School has had to change the way the school is financially supported.

In 2014 the St. Wenceslaus School Endowment Fund was created by a group of interested alumni and current parents of children enrolled in St. Wenceslaus. It is a 501-3C fund that is intended to support the monetary needs of the school only.

The fund is strictly designed to support the schools tuition program to make the school more affordable to families that want their children to attend SWS, no matter what their financial situation. It is not designed to strictly be a "scholarship" type tuition program but a way to reduce the tuition levels to help all families send their children to this fine Catholic based educational system.

Donations are already coming in and we are well on our way to reaching our goal of \$100,000 in the first year!

The SWS Endowment board is formulating a plan to reach out to all alumni that have had success in their careers and would be willing to give back for their SWS Catholic Education! SWS Endowment Fund is hoping gracious alumni will donate to this incredible school for years to come. St. Wenceslaus Catholic School's future now depends on you and all alumni! We need large and small donations to grow our endowment account so that the school can reap the benefits of our investments. Please consider a gift at this time.

Your support is truly appreciated and it will help secure SWS for years to come! If you have questions about how to support the school or to make a donation to the Endowment Fund please feel free to call.

Endowment Board Members:

Tom Chromy (952) 758-2756, Endowment Fund Chairperson  
Bob Vanesek, John Barta, Chad Wieskus, John Chromy

Picture at the All School Reunion:

Ron McBroom received recognition for being a supporter and friend of the school raising thousands of dollars over the past 28 or more years by collecting pledges for the school marathon.

Others receiving awards for various reasons were:

Cheryl Svoboda Bastyr '69, Sister Katherine Trendera, Lucille Nickolay '36, Mary Alice Novak Osborn '53, John Bisek '41, Pat Weldon '58 and Mary Slinkard Weldon '58, Joyce Kajer '44, and Elaine Harty.



## SWS Junior High Students Benefit by Generous Donations

The students of the 7th and 8th grades are using wonderful tools this year to learn, to read, to do their projects, to research, and so much more. Each student was issued a new MacBook Air Computer that they could use for much of their school work. Students are participating in the one-to-one program called LWL@SWS ( Learning Without Limits @ St. Wenceslaus School). The computers were purchased as a result of many generous donations given to the school during the annual school Starry Night Fundraiser last spring. At the Starry Night Auction, guests were asked to Fund-A-Need for the school. This was the need that the school felt was most important at this time. Teaching students how to learn with the aid of a computer will benefit them in many ways as they move forward into higher education. More than \$35,000 was collected to make this goal possible. Some funds from the school endowment account also supported the project. As a result, not only do the 7th and 8th graders benefit, but the younger grades received the benefit of the older computers and several sets of i-pads to use in their classrooms.

Today's technology at SWS is amazing. Students are taking on-line tests and are doing homework with resources and applications. They can communicate with teachers at any time, work in groups with other students during school and in the evening by connecting on-line, and so much more. A very special thanks to everyone who donated to this cause! The school plans to kick off another Fund-A-Need project at the Starry Night in the Northwoods event coming up in March. Please consider joining us for this fun party while also helping the school succeed.



**LWL@SWS**  
**Learning Without Limits @ St. Wenceslaus**

### Please update your contact information for us!

Please send us your updated information if you have had changes in your life!

E-mail Address:

Name: Maiden Name:

Address: Phone Number:

Year of Graduation: Name of Spouse:

Names and E-mail addresses of other family members who are graduates of SWS or those who attended SWS for a while and would like to receive our news:

Deceased Alumni:



You can e-mail this information to [kim.doyle@swsaints.org](mailto:kim.doyle@swsaints.org)

### You are invited to our School Play

The Saint Wenceslaus School Junior High proudly presents their production of Shrek the Musical Jr, to be performed in the Parish Activity Center.

Thursday, February 5 at 6:30 PM and Friday, February 6 at 5:30 and 7:30 PM. It is a family-friendly play that will keep you laughing!



Tickets are available at the school office or at the door. Adult tickets are \$3.00.

Students, 8th grade and under, are \$2.00.

We hope to see you there!

### Advertising Banners

Would you like to advertise your business at the school you support? If so, St. Wenceslaus School is selling advertising space in the Parish Activity Center (PAC) as a fundraiser; 100% of the proceeds go to the school. The 3' x 3' vinyl banners will be hung on the East wall of the PAC. The advertising banners will not advertise events that contradict the faith and morals of the Catholic Church. All banners must be pre-approved.

The banner fee for the first year is \$500 (Includes the printed banner) and \$400 for each consecutive year. Save by paying for 5 years in advance at a discounted rate of \$1900. Use your own design, or for an additional fee we can help create a design.

Contact the school office at 952-758-3133 with questions. This opportunity is offered to supporters of our school before the general public, so act fast. Thank you for supporting St. Wenceslaus School!

### Cutest Nativity Scene in town! SWS Little Spirits Preschool Students



## Special Thanks to all of our Donors

### Contributions for the Year of 2014

#### Contributions to Alumni

##### Association:

Allyn & Kathryn Kramer  
 Ann Barta  
 Annella Gibney  
 Annie Schmitz  
 Barb Kavan  
 Bernard & Tomiko Novotny  
 Brian Cervenka  
 Don & Marcella Dvorak  
 Donald & Rose Marie Hauer  
 Eileen Glasspoole  
 Frances Christian  
 Francis & Delores Pumper  
 George & Jane Brezina  
 Harold Borak  
 Howard & Shirley Schwisow  
 JC & Joan Mickus  
 Jean Piazza  
 Jerre Richter  
 Jim & Carol Lang  
 Jim & Jean Becker  
 Joan Blenker  
 John & Ann Pint  
 John & Lisa Ingebrand  
 John & Lois Novotny  
 John Parkos  
 John Sticha  
 Judy Cervenka  
 Leonard & Rita Shimota  
 Lucille Nickolay  
 Margaret Novotny  
 Marty & Anna Herrmann  
 Mary McDonald  
 Mary Wetschka  
 Mike & Nancy McLoone  
 Patricia McDonald  
 Paul Carr  
 Reynold Schoenbauer  
 Richard & Eileen Schmitz  
 Roger & Linda Pesta  
 Terry & Janet Rezac  
 Thomas & Elizabeth Witt  
 Wencel & Pat Kubes  
 William & Joan Nickolay

#### Contribution to Memorial:

Agnes Kratochvil  
 Al & Mary Sticha  
 Alex Grundhoffer  
 Shannon Overn  
 Alice Oniskin  
 Alice Zittel  
 Ann Kreger  
 Anna Mae Witt  
 Arlene Pexa  
 Arnie & Ann Schoenbauer  
 Barb Prchal  
 Becky Kroyer

#### Contribution to Memorial:

Ben & Mary Zweber  
 Ben & Patricia Rezac  
 Ben Johannes Memorial  
 Bill & Joyce Kajer  
 Bob & Joan Goggins  
 Bob & Marilyn Bednar  
 Brad & Katie Novak  
 Brad & Rhonda Pauly  
 Briggs & Morgan  
 Chad & Kyle Wieskus  
 Charles & Barbara Haslerud  
 Clara Giesen  
 Cynthia Hrabe  
 Dan & Elizabeth Strand  
 Dan & Peg Koehnen  
 Darlene Witt  
 Daryl & Laura Karsky  
 Dave & Kitty Bruzek  
 Don & Corinne Distel  
 Don & Veda Sirek  
 Don Yackley  
 Doug & Jean Zimanske  
 EC & Sally Schmid  
 John & Elaine Harty  
 Elaine Miller  
 Elgar & Irene Busch  
 George & Elsie Tupy  
 George & Kathleen Colling  
 Glen & Carrie Hoffman  
 Glen & Margaret Schoenbauer  
 Gordie & Ann Schmitz  
 Greg & Diane Trettel  
 Jack & Ann Pint  
 Jacqueline Ruehling  
 James & Ann Bock  
 James & Carole Lang  
 James & Mary Walker  
 James Kersting  
 Jerry & Linda Lucas  
 Jim & Anita Kratochvil  
 Jim & Jean Becker  
 Jim & Sherry Hartman  
 Jim & Tery Mahowald  
 Joe & Carol Sticha  
 Joe & Patricia Shuster  
 John & Ann Berg  
 John & Carol Pavek  
 John & Cindy Schmitz  
 John & Doisey Landry  
 John & Jerri Olson  
 John & Judith Larson  
 John Bisek  
 Jolene Schoenecker  
 Jon & Kate Colling  
 Joseph & Diane Vaughan  
 Karen & Mike Brau  
 Kathy McNamara

#### Contribution to Memorial:

Kathy O'Neill  
 Ken & Lana Witt  
 Ken & Rosella Kes  
 Kevin Kajer  
 Lael & Susan King  
 Larry & Juanita Peters  
 Liz Musil  
 Loren & Mary Cybyske  
 Lynn Bisek  
 Marilyn Shimota  
 Marilyn Voltz  
 Marion Skluzacek  
 Mark & Sandy Scheffler  
 Marty & Joan May  
 Mary Agnes Budin  
 Mary Bendzick  
 Mary Kucera  
 Nancy Beck  
 Norb & Arlene Sticha  
 Oscar & Marilyn May  
 Pat O'Neill-Scheidt  
 Patty Stasney  
 Paul & Rosanne Flick  
 Peg Novotny  
 Peg Wermerskirchen  
 Peter Croatt  
 Ramona McGuire  
 Randolph & Nancy Fierst  
 Rebecca Gladhill  
 Richard & Annette Eischens  
 Richard & MaryJo Hruby  
 Richard & Shirley Ziskovsky  
 Robert Doyle  
 Roger & Bev Zvanovec  
 Roger & Joanne Zaun  
 Roger & Linda Smisek  
 Ron & Joan Scheffler  
 Ron & Kathy McBroom  
 Ron & Laura Schoenecker  
 Ron & Mary Rynda  
 Sarah Henry  
 Sean & Jamee O'Neill  
 Stan & Vi Chromy  
 Steve & Cheryl Skluzacek  
 Tammy Willenbring  
 Tom & Deb Hanzel  
 Troy & Judy Miller  
 Al & Virginia Mahowald  
 William & Diane Smith

#### Memorial Gifts in honor of these precious lives:

Adeline Bisek  
 Adeline Kubes  
 Adeline Sobczak  
 Allen Mahowald  
 Aurelia Mares  
 Ben Johannes  
 Bernie Nelson  
 Bob Shimota  
 Catherine Oniskin Nash  
 Cecelia Shetka  
 Corrine Connelly  
 Dan Kamish  
 David Lopic  
 Donna Mae Kadrliek  
 Dorothy Schoenecker  
 Dr. E. Roger Rynda  
 Ella Ruth Markham  
 Erin Kreuser  
 Ervin Turek  
 Eugene Musil  
 Francis Bisek  
 George Wolf  
 Gerry Rauenhorst  
 James Doyle  
 Jerry Bendzick  
 Joan Mickus  
 John Meskan  
 John Wagner  
 Joseph Lexa  
 Joyce Sticha  
 Lando Busch  
 Larry Gross  
 Mae Ann Schoenbauer  
 Marcella Prokes  
 Marion Mahowald  
 Martha Deutsch Phillips  
 Marvin Mahowald  
 Mary Ann Terwedo  
 Mary Jo Blumhoefer  
 Michael Lambrecht  
 Mike Speltz  
 Milan Knezovich  
 Myles Jilek  
 Norman Chan  
 Robert Shimota  
 Sibila (Siby) Turek  
 Steve VonBank  
 Steve Zard  
 Steven Bennett  
 Wilbert Busch



**In  
 Loving  
 Memory**

**Contributions to Tuition****Assistance:**

Al & Virginia Mahowald  
 Alyce Ilg  
 Anita Aase  
 Anna Mae Witt  
 Anne Hanzel  
 Arv & Carol Olson  
 Audrey Bendzick  
 Barb Schoenbauer & Ann Gestach  
 Bill & Joyce Kajer  
 Brad & Katie Novak  
 Brian & Katie Roers  
 Bruce & Mary Stasney  
 Dan & Marilyn Kneeland  
 Darlene Witt  
 Dorothy Jirik-Moore  
 Dorothy Orr  
 John & Elaine Harty  
 Helen Pexa  
 Irene Bednar  
 Jim & Anita Kratochvil  
 Jodi Schoenecker  
 John & Carol Pavek  
 John & Patty Stasney  
 Jolene Schoenecker  
 Knights of Columbus  
 Lawrence & Mary Lynn Gross  
 Leonard & Lois Newman  
 Marc & Julie Smith  
 Marie Kajer  
 Marvin Huss  
 Mary Wetschka  
 Pat O'Neill-Scheidt  
 Roger & Bev Zvanovec  
 Roger & JoAnn Zaun  
 Roger & Linda Smisek  
 Sarah Henry  
 Stanley & Violet Chromy  
 Tim & Kathryn Neeser  
 Tom & Deb Hanzel  
 Tony & Bonnie Schneider  
 Tony & Carolyn Dorzinski  
 Wencel & Pat Kubes  
 Wilfred & Marian Mahowald  
 Yvonne Brausen

**Gifts given in the honor of the following special events:**

40th Anniversary of Ordination for Fr. Kevin Clinton  
 Retirement from teaching for Ann Kreger  
 Honor of Greg & Diane Trettel Family  
 90th B-Day of Marcella Kubes  
 Birthday of Mary Ann Maruska  
 50th Wedding Anniversary of John & Carol Pavek

**Parish Envelope****Donations Directed to School Tuition Assistance:**

Mike & Elizabeth Bartusek  
 Irene Bednar  
 Audrey Bendzick  
 Dan & Tara Berg  
 Julius Bisek  
 Dean & Joan Blenker  
 George & Jane Brezina  
 Stan & Violet Chromy  
 Richard & Phyllis Deutsch  
 Charlotte & Gerald Edberg  
 Steve & JeNean Erickson  
 Brad & Jody Grams  
 Bruce & Cathleen Halloran  
 John & Elaine Harty  
 Joyce Hertaus  
 Alyce Ilg  
 Marie Kajer  
 Bill & Joyce Kajer  
 Dave & Susan Karan  
 Marilyn & Dan Kneeland  
 Norman & Monica Kokes  
 Jim & Anita Kratochvil  
 Wally & Jeanne Kubes  
 Wencel & Patricia Kubes  
 Ginny Mahowald  
 Joe & Joannie Meyer  
 Roger & Nancy Musil  
 Lucille Nickolay  
 Mike & Sandra O'Rourke  
 Arv & Carol Olson  
 John & Carol Pavek  
 Helen Pexa  
 Ed & Grace Picka  
 Helen Pomije  
 Katie & Brian Roers  
 Milo & Carolyn Rynda  
 Marilyn Schaper  
 Eric & Lisa Schmid  
 Barbara Schoenbauer  
 Mark Schoenbauer  
 Jodi Schoenecker  
 Jack & Patty Stasney  
 Katherine Trenda  
 Ronald & Loretta Tuma  
 Regina Wagner  
 Darlene Witt  
 Anna Mae Witt  
 Joe & Sue Wondra

**Contributions to Alumni 500 Club:**

Mary Jane Bartusek-Kessler  
 Charles & Jayne Bartusek  
 Jim & Jean Becker  
 John Bisek  
 Ronald & Martha Bisek  
 Bob Bohnsack  
 Stan & Vi Chromy  
 John Chromy  
 Tony & Carolyn Dorzinski  
 JeNean Erickson  
 Donna Giesen  
 Brad & Jody Grams  
 Anne Hanzel  
 Chad & Jodi Hunt  
 Jim & Anita Kratochvil  
 Paul Kratochvil  
 William & Kimberly Lang  
 Tom Mach  
 Jim & Theresa Mahowald  
 Alice Marek  
 Irene Michel  
 Jim Cavanaugh & Mora Cervenka  
 Jack Murray  
 Chuck Nickolay  
 Lois Novosad  
 Peg Novotny  
 Lloyd & Rosalie Pauly  
 Tom & Margie Pexa  
 John & Ann Pint  
 Susan Prochaska  
 Milo & Carolyn Rynda  
 Brad Schoenbauer  
 Amanda Schoenbauer  
 Glen Schoenbauer  
 Doug Schoenecker  
 Ron & Laura Schoenecker  
 Michael & Diana Sirek  
 Steve & Cheryl Skluzacek  
 John & Patty Stasney  
 Norbert & Arlene Sticha  
 Richard & Corrine Turek  
 Robert & Mary Vanasek  
 Fredrick & Nancy Vescio  
 Jeff & Mary Wick  
 Marlene Wolf  
 Roger & Bev Zvanovec  
 Mary Zweber

**Gift Donations of specific request:**

Chris & Lynn Meyer  
 Clarence & Joann Tupy  
 David Baird  
 George & Elsie Tupy  
 Jon & Kate Colling  
 Judy Deutsch  
 Larry & Serene Bachman  
 Steve & Teresa Dalsin  
 Foundation  
 Tom & Sue Werblow

**Gift Donations:**

Ann Marie Asbury  
 Barb Gullickson  
 Dan & Dara Bishop  
 Elmer Barta  
 Eugene & Luverne Musil  
 Jeff & Traci Schoenbauer  
 Jim & Jean Becker  
 Kathy O'Neill  
 Margaret Anzelc  
 Mark & Sandy Scheffler  
 Mary Wetschka  
 Pat & Ann Soderlund  
 Ron & Kathy McBroom  
 Sean & Jamee O'Neill

**Contributions to the new St. Wenceslaus School****Endowment Foundation:**

Agnes Kratochvil  
 Arnie & Ann Schoenbauer  
 Craig & Mary Ellen Sindelar  
 Dr. John & Ann Berg  
 Eric & Lisa Schmid  
 George & Elsie Tupy  
 Greg & Diane Trettel  
 Helen Pexa  
 Jackie Ruehling  
 John & Nora Chromy  
 John Barta  
 Joseph Peroutka Jr.  
 Kathy O'Neill  
 Ken & Rosella Kes  
 Lucille Nickolay  
 Ramona McGuire  
 Randy & Lori Stangler  
 Ryan & Kathleen O'Neill  
 Tom & Dianne Chromy  
 Yvonne Brausen.

**STARRY NIGHT in the NORTHWOODS**

Join us on March 14 to support our school.

**Thanks to all of the school alumni and friends of our school: for your donations, your prayers and your support!**

**We need you now more than ever!**

**St. Wenceslaus Catholic School  
Alumni Association & Friends  
227 Main Street East  
New Prague, MN 56071**

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**Alumni Association and Friends  
Board of Directors**

Ann (Ambroz) Christy '71 Alumni

Diane (Bisek) Chromy '72 Alumni

Judy (Weiers) Deutsch, Friend of SWS

Kim Doyle '72 Alumni  
(Current SWS )Principal

Sam Levenson '09 Alumni

Joe Meyer, Friend of SWS

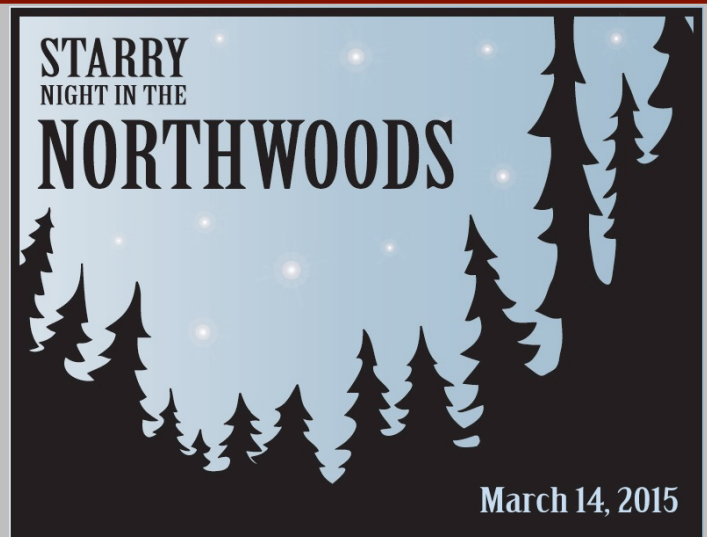
Chuck Nickolay '71 Alumni

Lindsey (Stasney) Nelson '93 Alumni

Georgia Meskan, Friend of SWS

Linda(Beckius) Smisek '73 Alumni

**Join us for a fun evening of  
Dining, Entertainment, and Fundraising Activities  
Live and Silent Auction, Group Events and  
Purchases**



**RSVP for the event on line at  
<https://saintwenceslaus.ejoinme.org/SWSAuction>  
Questions: Call 952-758-3133 or e-mail [info@swsaints.org](mailto:info@swsaints.org)**