



RIVERBEND RIPPLES

FROM OUR COORDINATOR EMERITUS:

As I sit down to put down my thoughts as Riverbend TEC Coordinator, this time is different. I have been the Coordinator for 36 years and I consider it a great blessing in my life as a priest. It has been a lot of work behind the scenes but it has been worth it. Over these years Riverbend TEC has had some struggles and also great successes. In the 265 TEC weekends scheduled since April 1977 we have had 10,823 team members sharing their time, faith, and service. There have been 7,718 Tecites who have grown in their encounter with Christ. These are impressive numbers but the most important part of these years is the opportunity for team and Tecites to grow spiritually and in their encounter with Christ. I have grown spiritually and I thank the bishops of the Diocese of New Ulm, from Bishop Lucker through Bishop LeVoir, for their support for Riverbend TEC and of me as the Coordinator and Spiritual Director for Riverbend TEC. There are many I need to thank especially the host parishes where TEC has been held and those who have served on the TEC Council and in leadership on TEC weekends. The strength of Riverbend TEC is in all those who have been involved in TEC. It is inspiring to see so many youth and adults who have been

part of TEC involved in parishes living and sharing their faith.

This past fall as we discussed my “retirement” as Coordinator for Riverbend TEC it seemed wise to have a set date for new people to take over and for me to move into the background. We decided on June 30, 2017 as the effective date for my resignation. In order for there to be a smooth transition I will work closely with the new coordinator and spiritual director.

Through a thorough discernment process and input from many Tecites involved in Riverbend TEC we have come up with a great leadership team. Katie Prokosch will be the Coordinator, Justin Prokosch, her husband, will be the assistant Coordinator. Fr. Tony Hesse will be the Spiritual Director and Fr. Andy Michels will be the assistant Spiritual Director. They take over leadership for Riverbend TEC on July 1, 2017. I look forward to working closely with them. I ask everyone to keep Riverbend TEC and its new leadership in your prayers. I look forward to continued involvement on TEC weekends and with leadership as needed.

Ramp up your prayers for TEC and especially Riverbend TEC. St. Theresa of Lisieux, pray for us..

Fr Denny
dclabat@gmail.com



COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:

Over the past few years, I have come to a deeper appreciation for everything Fr Denny has done and devoted to our RB TEC community; not only the retreats, but the people. Riverbend TEC has allowed so many individuals to encounter Christ in a deep and personal way. Many of us can confidently say TEC is/was a pivotal point on our journey with Christ and discipleship. Without the years and time Fr Denny has served our community, it wouldn't have been possible.

I pray often for a better understanding where God is leading me in my life of discipleship, and it seemed like I was called to be a permanent member of the TEC Council because Fr Denny kept renewing the terms instead of kicking me off of council (joking). Fr Denny approached me a while back telling me he was thinking about the future coordinator and roles, and that I was one he had in mind to take the role of coordinator. Through prayer and discernment I felt this was where God is calling me, and agreed to say yes to Fr Denny.

Although no one can take Fr Denny's place, we are excited to continue the work he has done so diligently for our community over the past 36 years. I pray

that our new leadership team, along with everyone in the TEC community, can live out our call to discipleship and continue to serve Christ, encounter Christ more deeply, and journey with others on their life with Christ through Riverbend TEC for many more years to come. Where ever the future takes us as individuals and as a community, may we go in joy and service to others on our journey of faith and discipleship.

"Those who follow Jesus' commandment entirely will find the burden they must bear to be light. They will receive the strength to walk in the right path without becoming weary. Where will the call to discipleship lead those who follow it? We must take this question to him who alone knows the answer. Only Jesus Christ, who bids us follow him, knows where the path will lead. But we know that it will be a path full of mercy beyond measure. Discipleship is joy." – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Katie Prokosch
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NEW ADDRESS Information:

507-828-4256
Riverbend TEC
24637 US Highway 71
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

Riverbend TEC website information:

After opening the updated TEC website www.riverbendtec.org, go to the upper right corner and click "Sign In" to access the updated 430 page. We have new, easy to use online application forms now for applying for team! Everyone now uses the same username and password to log in.

www.riverbendtec.org
username: riverbend
password: wheat430

Find up to date news, applications, contacts, links, & information on Saints!

The Riverbend TEC Council is the leadership organization for Riverbend TEC which meets the 2nd Thursday of the month from 6:30pm to 9:30pm at the Catholic Pastoral Center in New Ulm. This group works at providing leadership training, evaluation, publishing a newsletter, updating the TEC weekend and being a resource for any TECite to contact with concerns or ideas.

Riverbend TEC T-Shirt WEBSITE: We have a storefront on CafePress. You'll find a wide variety of options, styles, sizes, and colors.

A part of every purchase made will go to Riverbend TEC. www.cafepress.com/riverbendtec.

Wheat Letters are a vital part of our weekend, building the faith community. Write a Die Day, Rise Day, or Go Day letter for the upcoming weekend.

You can also write Personal Die Day letters for any of the new TECites or Team Members participating on the weekend. Letters for Rise and Go Day should address the entire group.

You can now submit your letters from the website or you can send them in the mail to **Riverbend TEC, 24637 US Highway 71, Redwood Falls, MN 56283.**

Safe Environment - Volunteers are to go to the VIRTUS website (www.virtus.com) to read an article and answer a simple question. Login with your name and password. If you have any trouble doing this, please send an email to or call Katie Prokosch at riverbendtec@gmail.com or **507-828-4256**. **Please read the Safe Environment training article ASAP. It is required to work on team for a Riverbend TEC weekend in 2016-2017.**

FIAT is a shorter follow-up retreat for those who have made TEC and are 18 and over. Check our website for more information. **We will have our next Fiat on November 18-19 in Bird Island MN.**

Upcoming Riverbend TEC Events

July 2017

15 | **TEC Council Picnic**

August 2017

5-7 | **RB 266 CANCELLED**

A Reflection from Fr. Tim Biren:

The "older" generation has a great responsibility in encouraging the "younger" generation to achieve greatness in life. We, the "older" generation, teach through our words and actions. We model adulthood. As a result... it is no wonder that children still bully their peers... that children are hiding their emotions through destructive behaviors... that some children are taking their lives. Peers that hurt peers have learned that from us... they have learned that bullying is okay.

When we disagree with someone, why do we tease or make fun of them? Do we not want our vulnerability and weaknesses to show? Our world has a lot of growing up to do. Yes, life is supposed to be enjoyable. God wants us to be happy... but not at the expense of putting other people down. How are we helping to lift people up? How can we help make a difference in the world? We can do more change when we are mature and reasonable. It is "normal" to disagree with another. We can agree to disagree. But, when we constantly tease, make fun of or cut down... we are no better than the school bus bully.

May God grant us the grace to change our hearts and make them like His own! God loves you!

Pray for the Team/TECites of RB 265

Totus Tuus - Summer 2017 dates

Six parishes/AFCs have been invited to pilot our very first summer of Totus Tuus, a summer catechetical program for youth. The dates and locations are as follows:

July 9-14 - St. Anne, Wabasso
(*Light of the World AFC*)

July 16-21 - St. Mary/Cathedral, New
Ulm (*Holy Cross AFC*)

If you would like to check the program out, feel free to stop by any of these locations over the summer. Also, feel free to contact these parishes if you have youth who would be interested in attending Totus Tuus, but are not a part of one of these AFCs.

The Office of Youth Ministry of the Diocese of New Ulm is offering three summer camps. Information and applications are available on the diocesan website www.dnu.org.

1. Camp Beloved, July 22-26 at Schoenstatt in Sleepy Eye. It is for grades 6-12.
2. Camp Greatness, Middle School on July 27-30 at Schoenstatt in Sleepy Eye. It is for grades 6-8.
3. Camp Greatness, High School on July 31-August 4 at Schoenstatt in Sleepy Eye. It is for grades 9-12.



Riverbend TEC Schedule for 2016-2017

TEC	Date	Location
267	January 13-15, 2018	Winsted
268	February 17-19, 2018	Marshall
269	April 14-16, 2018	Bird Island

We will soon be sending out information seeking directors/leadership for the next three TEC weekends

Welcome to the New TECites of RB265

Anthony Callens	Crystal K Demuth
Alice A Fasnacht	Gabrielle R Houle
Faustina M Lehto	Kyle J McKeown

Prayer for TRANSFORMATION

Loving Father, I invite you into my life today and make myself available to you. Help me to become the-best-version-of-myself by seeking your will and becoming a living example of your love in the world. Open my heart to the areas of my life that need to change in order for me to carry out the mission and experience the joy you have imagined for my life. Inspire me to live the Universal Catholic faith in ways that are dynamic and engaging. Show me how to best get involved in the life of my parish. Make our community hungry for best practices and continuous learning. Give me courage when I am afraid, hope when I am discouraged, and clarity in times of decision. Teach me to enjoy uncertainty and lead your Church to become all you imagined it would be for the people of our times. Amen.

*St. Therese of Lisieux,
Patron Saint of TEC
pray for the team
and TECites
of Riverbend # 267!*

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riverbendtec](http://www.cafepress.com/riverbendtec)*

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Facebook group,
[www.facebook.com/
groups/2204607343](http://www.facebook.com/groups/2204607343)*

**Team Applications
need to be received
FIVE weeks before the
TEC weekend.**

***You can now fill out
and send in your team
application ONLINE!***

*Submissions for the Ripples
are due 5 weeks before a
TEC weekend.*

*Email them to
jerrylangworthy@hotmail.com*