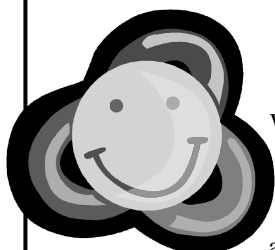


...on *The EDGE*

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2008



Welcome Back!

Welcome back to The EDGE! We are ready to roll out our first event of the year—our annual Kick-Off celebration on Sunday, September 14th. All registered EDGIES are invited to attend the event and compete in games that will challenge, and possibly, disgust you (do you remember the happy meal in a blender??). We will meet in the parish hall following the 5:30 PM Mass.

If you have NOT registered yet for the EDGE—it's not too late! Registration forms are available online, on the table in the back of the parish hallway, or from the parish office. Unfortunately, you will be charged the \$25 late fee at this point, but it's still worth it! EDGE is a lot of fun, a great place to hang with old friends and meet some new, and a wonderful way to learn more about your faith!

If you aren't familiar with EDGE, check out our EDGE website at www.standrewyouth.org and click on the EDGE title to visit our page. Peruse the site

for sessions held last year, pictures of things we did, places we went, and information about things to come, including a calendar of this year's events. We have some great things planned including some opportunities to serve the community and parish, and nights to just have fun being a kid!

Our topic this year is "Beliefs and Traditions" which will take us behind the scenes of our Catholic beliefs through a study of art, history and prayer. We will even set up our own "EDGE Museum" and challenge you to make your own Catholic art piece.

Both Father Will and Father Gordon will be back this year to present in addition to some other special guests. Come and learn some fun facts about your religion that you may not have learned before and enjoy the fellowship of other kids your age. Even if you are not part of our Saline public school system, you will feel at home here in our parish EDGE program.

For more information about the EDGE program, contact the EDGE office at 429-8467 or at standrewedge@comcast.net. ▲

You Edge

Broadcast your faith!™

This year's theme for EDGE is a spin off of the popular internet site "YouTube". **YouEdge** is a place for Middle School Youth to gather, to learn, to work and to play together. This will be very evident this year as we plan and participate in many events including community service projects, fun nights, and some serious catechesis geared towards learning how our faith began and why we believe in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church.

The EDGE *belongs* to these middle school youth, and is their place to question and expand their knowledge of their faith. We want them to take ownership and pride in their faith and to build a deeper relationship with God. As leaders and catechists, our job is to help guide them, letting the Holy Spirit lead the way! We ask for your prayers for our program this year and for our wonderful middle school youth. ▲

SPECIAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *EDGE begins on Sunday, Sept. 14th!*
- *EDGE calendar available online.*
- *Team Leader training dinner on Tuesday, Sept. 9th.*
- *See You at the Pole—Wednesday, Sept. 24th—7 AM*



EDGE®
Catholic Middle School Ministry

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

EDGE Team Leader Dinner Parish Hall 6-9:00 PM	9/9/08
St. Andrew Parish Picnic Parking Lot 1:00-4:00 PM	9/14/08
EDGE Kick-Off 6:30-8:30 PM	9/14//08
EDGE Night 6:30-8:30 PM	9/21/08
See You at the Pole (Wed) 7:00 AM—SMS Flag Pole	9/24/08
EDGE Night 6:30-8:30 PM	9/28/08

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" Matt 18:20.

GIVE IT AWAY NOW!



Our first EDGE service project begins **T O D A Y !** Help us as we join together with EDGE and LIFEteen programs around the globe to collect gently-used clothing to donate to the St. Vincent DePaul Society. The world-wise goal is to collect 50,000 pounds of clothes that can be given to those less fortunate this school year. So clean out your closets and donate those sweaters, shirts, pants, jeans and coats that you have outgrown!

Bring those items to the church and drop them in our collection boxes in the back of the parish hallway.

Please do not bring us clothing that is torn, stained, or unwearable. Remember, these clothes will go to someone else to wear and must be in presentable form.

The clothing drive begins TODAY, September 7th and will end on Sunday, September 28th.

For more information, check out the EDGE website or the LIFEteen national office website at www.lifeteen.com. ▲

"You keep me hanging in your closet or folded in a drawer. I am a pair of jeans or a sweater; sweatshirt or pant, skirts or dress. I am the shirt you haven't worn for over a year, maybe because you have grown, maybe because I'm out of style. Whatever the reason, you don't need me anymore-but someone does."

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

* NOTE These are only the EDGIES with September birthdays who have registered for EDGE for the 2008-2009 school year (as of Friday, August 29th).

Lindsey Talcott	13-Sep-95
Claire Koerschner	22-Sep-95

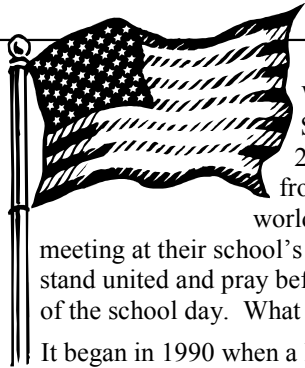
Contact The EDGE:

Nancy Carter—CYM

429-8467 or standrewedge@comcast.net

www.standrewyouth.org

See You at the Pole (SY@TP)



On Wednesday, September 24th, youth from all over the world will be

meeting at their school's flag pole, to stand united and pray before the start of the school day. What a concept!

It began in 1990 when a large group of teens joined together to pray at a DisciplesNow youth conference in Texas. In their prayers, they asked God to unite them in His name. One idea that came out of the conference was to bring students, regardless of their religion, to pray together before the beginning of the school day. They had hoped the idea would spread to other schools throughout their area and at 7AM on a specified day, these students would meet at their respective flag poles and pray simultaneously. The event was aptly named "See You at the Pole".

The first organized event, held on

September 12, 1990, brought together 45,000 teenagers in the greater Texas area. One year later, on September 11th, 1991, one million students met at school flag poles across the U.S.! They prayed for their friends, their families, their school, their leaders and their country.

Today, over 3 million students from 20 different countries participate in this event annually, including our own youth here in Saline.

Youth around the world will be meeting on Wednesday morning, September 24th at 7AM at their school's flag pole. Our EDGE program will once again participate in this event at the Saline Middle School flag pole. The program is organized, planned and lead by the students. They can purchase and wear commemorative T-Shirts.

Our middle school youth EDGIES were so moved by the experience last year that they asked to continue the tradition each and every month! And we did!

With the approval of the school administration, we met on the first Monday of every month from October through June, in the rain, the snow, and the dark of early morning. The kids picked Bible verses to read, held hands, and prayed spontaneously for those in need.

Some days we only had a handful of 10 or 15 kids, and on others, we had more. We had some incredible leaders who stepped forth to lead the group through prayer and meditation each month and gathered new members as we went along. It was inspiring! These kids are inspiring!

We will participate again this year on the annual See You at the Pole event on the 24th and maybe....carry on the tradition throughout the school year. I will bring the doughnuts!

God Bless America! A place where we can freely pray in public. Amen. ▲

