



We are stronger together.

Have you ever thought about what it is like to be a college student in today's world? Balancing being away from home and family, academics, work, and a social life can be a struggle. With the distractions the world offers, more young people than ever are struggling to stay active in their faith.

Being a Newman Catholic Student Center on a secular college campus like The University of Iowa, is not just about campus ministry - it is about people. Keeping students engaged in their faith is just one piece of what we do here. We work every day to provide a community where students feel seen and heard. A community where alumni know they are welcome. Students that walk through our doors know we truly care about them. They know they can come in and share good days, bad days, and find support, comfort, and even protection. They know the freedom of their role as a beloved child of God.

We invite you to become a part of our mission and ministry. By joining **Friends in Faith**, you become an important partner in sustaining our ministry through your financial support, prayer, and stewardship.



Our Mission

The Newman Catholic Student Center is a Roman Catholic ministry to those associated with The University of Iowa to promote their development within a faith community and to prepare them as disciples for the Church and for the world.



Our Priest Director

Fr. Jeff Belger accepted the role of Priest Director in 2018. Prior to 2018, he served as Priest Campus Minister at the Center as well as Parochial Vicar at St. Mary of the Visitation parish in Iowa City.

Fr. Jeff began his discernment to the priesthood while a student at Notre Dame High School in Burlington, IA. Prior to the priesthood, he worked as a YMCA Program Director and then as a teacher and Youth Minister at his alma mater. He earned both his MA and MDiv in Theology at St. Meinrad School of Theology.

Friends in Faith is the Newman Catholic Student Center's sustained giving program. There is no pre-requisite to become a **Friends in Faith** partner, however a total annual pledge of \$1,000 is required. Our mission depends on partners like you to be successful. Without the stewardship of our benefactors, we would be unable to continue to grow our outreach and ministry to The University of Iowa community.

Why join Friends in Faith?

- Through your gift, you are supporting our mission and God's call to evangelize.
- As Christian disciples we are asked to be good stewards of God's blessings. Through your stewardship, you are setting an example for others to follow. Your faith-filled support will inspire students in their faith journey.
- Your gift will make it possible for students to have an opportunity to deepen their relationship with Jesus and with others in our faith community.
- Sustained giving allows the Newman Center to project accurate and secure income for our ministry when planning student programs like retreats, special Masses, and social activities as well as budgeting facility maintenance, salaries, and utilities.

Friends in Faith Recognition

- Your name, if you choose, will be listed in our donor recognition area in the Gathering Space. New donors will be added each summer for the previous fiscal year.
- **Friends in Faith** will also be listed on the Donor Honor Roll which is published each fall on our website for the previous fiscal year.
- Invitations to special events throughout the year where you have an opportunity to meet students and staff to learn more about our ministry and socialize with other Newman Center financial partners.

Our students are learning to be leaders in their future parishes. They are evangelizing students of all faiths through personal invitation and the creation of a community where they challenge each other to a deeper encounter with Jesus.



What is the Friends in Faith Commitment?

You choose your level of commitment of at least \$1,000 per year for a pledge term of three years. You may designate where you would like your gift to be utilized, however, at least 25% of your pledge must be designated to our Annual Fund. Our Annual Fund allows the Newman Center Board to use funds where most needed at any particular time. At the end of three years, you will have an opportunity to recommit to **Friends in Faith**.



Gold Crown Circle

\$10,000 or more annually for three years



Silver Dove Circle

\$9,999 - \$5,000 annually for three years



Bronze Keys Circle

\$4,999 - \$1,000 annually for three years

You may determine how you would like to fund your pledge: monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, bi-annually, or annually. Once your pledge schedule is confirmed, we will send you a reminder when your pledge payment is due. You may pay by check, or we can set up recurring automatic gift using your credit/debit card or your checking/savings account.

Your Impact As a Friend in Faith

Cassie McNitt, Class of 2023

"The Newman Center has changed my life. I have met some incredible friends who have pushed me to grow in my faith and in my relationships with others. I even met my fiancée here! I am thankful for my experiences at Newman and know that this community would not be possible without the financial support of our benefactors!"



How Do You Calculate Your Return on Investment?

It is hard to assign a dollar return on investment to your gift. We feel that our students show the true impact that our ministry has on The University of Iowa community through how they live their faith during and after their college years.

Cheyenne and Karl Kofmehl
Class of 2008 (Cheyanne)
Karl attended UI 2004 - 2007

"Throughout our marriage we have returned to the Newman Center for several amazing experiences as a couple: the Alpha Course, various book studies, the annual fundraiser, and a Newman Singer reunion. We also love going to Mass at the Newman Center when we are in town. Since we were students at the Newman Center, we can really tell there has been a spiritual renewal and increased passion for our faith and the mission of the Newman Center. It is so exciting to witness! The Center has been a great source of faith formation, fellowship, encouragement, and support for us and countless others - throughout college and beyond. We are so thankful it is still here doing the same for countless others due to the financial stewardship of so many!"



College is one of the most transitional times in the lives of our young people, and we are called to bring about community and spiritual conversion to their lives. Join us as a financial partner and be an instrument of good to those we serve in The University of Iowa community. Work alongside of us as we prepare disciples for the Church and the world!

