

# "Charismatic Renewal" - established in 1967 and still going strong today!

by Jan Crowe

Charismatic Renewal - what is it? It all started in 1967 at Duquesne University at an ordinary retreat for students where the Holy Spirit was manifested in various forms. This was the beginning of a movement in the Church in the United States that was not unlike the birth of the Church at Pentecost. Consequently, thanks to the Charismatic Movement, many have rediscovered Pentecost as a living and present reality in their daily lives. Today, the Catholic Charismatic Renewal exists in over 238 countries in the world, having touched over 100 million Catholics in its nearly 40-year existence.

Many do not know how to define the word *charismatic*. Charism defined means gift. Matic defined means involuntary movement - like our breath. Or as Scripture defines the Spirit in John 3:8. "The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." By this definition, all baptized Catholics are charismatic. All are called, all are gifted with the Holy Spirit's gifts.

## Upcoming Charismatic Renewal Events

Each year, the Diocese of New Ulm hosts two main events for Charismatic Renewal. One is the summer Catholic Family Bible Camp held the first weekend in August at Lake Koronis Assembly Grounds. In the twenty-five years this event has been held, an estimated 3,700 people of all ages have participated. This ministry has produced both religious and clerical vocations.

The other event hosted by Charismatic Renewal is the Diocesan Renewal Day held on the

Pictured (l-r) Teresa, Mary, Kevin, and Christine Higgins were one of the "first" families to attend the Catholic Family Bible Camp in 1981.



(Pictured above:) Last year's Catholic Family Bible Camp was well attended by people of all ages. (L-r kneeling) John Hansen, Nathan Hansen, Stephen Hansen, Grant Scherr, Anna Dvorak, Anita Dvorak, Janelle Malone and Robert Johnson, Ruthann Hansen, Sue Steuck, Grant Hansen, Tim Steuck, Jerry Brown, Tom Crowe, Maryann Dummer, Jan Crowe, Jan O'Neill. (Standing) Taylor Scherr, Randy Scherr, Mary Scherr, Christine Higgins, Kevin Higgins, Stephanie Moses, Teresa Higgins, Mary Higgins, Duane Benoit, Charlene Benoit, Fr. John Pearson, Carol Brown, Patty Cogley.

first Saturday in Lent. This day is gifted with speakers, music ministry, healing ministry, Eucharistic Adoration, and reconciliation. This year's Renewal Day will be held on March 4, 2006 at St. John's from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Education Center between Dassel and Cokato, MN. Speaker Fr. Bob Mraz will share with participants his research on the history of Pentecost, which is called Charismatic Renewal in today's church language and how it has ebbed and flowed in the church history. Fr. John Pearson and Msgr. Frank Garvey will celebrate a Healing Mass. The afternoon speaker will be Msgr. Garvey. Frs. Pat

Casey and Bernie Steiner will hear confessions throughout the day. This day will certainly be a time for Renewal - a wonderful beginning to our Lenten journey.

To register for the Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Day contact Charlene Benoit, 761 C.J. Moe Boulevard, Dassel, MN 55325; phone: (320) 275-9155.

For information on Charismatic Renewal or upcoming events, contact Jan Crowe, Diocese of New Ulm liaison for Charismatic Renewal, 21907 705th Avenue, Dassel, MN 55325; (320) 275-2424; or visit the diocesan Website at [www.dnu.org](http://www.dnu.org).

## MUSICIANS NEEDED

for the Charismatic Renewal Day, Saturday March 4. Rehearsal will be Thursday March 2 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. at the Dassel-Cokato Catholic Education Center. Contact Ann Przybilla at (507) 359-2966; email: [aprzybilla@dnu.org](mailto:aprzybilla@dnu.org)

