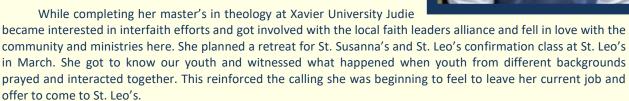
## We're Getting a Youth Minister!!

With more than 200 infant baptisms at St. Leo in recent years and more of our children entering and advancing in school, the need for a youth minister has become a priority. We have been blessed to have Gabbi Montavon lead the Children's Liturgy of the Word for the past 4 years for the younger children but we have had no consistent program for junior and senior high students. The need was certainly there and we had no money to hire a youth minister—quite a dilemma—but not for God!

Like many other things at St. Leo's God surprised us and supplied what we needed. Judie Kuhlman, who has been working in that ministry at St. Susanna's in Mason, will become our part-time volunteer youth minister in June.



It wasn't the first time her career took an unexpected turn. She was trained as an engineer at Notre Dame and worked in that field for many years. Later she earned an MBA from Xavier and worked as a project manager. As she and her husband David had their three children Rachel (14), Emily (11) and Will (8) she chose to work part-time to be more available to them. She began doing youth ministry at St. Susanna after earning her theology degree at Xavier.

Youth ministry is not a one-person job and Judie is seeking adult, college, and high school volunteers to join a leadership team to help with meetings and activities. She's already begun planning summer activities and will be working on a program for middle school (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) and high school (9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade) youth. She plans to develop a meeting schedule and meeting topics that correspond to the needs of the community, the parish, and participating youth, as well as those in the USCCB guidelines—community building, pastoral care, advocacy, peace and justice, praise and worship, evangelization, catechesis and leadership. She will also direct the Children's Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Mass.

Because she believes that all benefit from collaboration and diversity she plans to work with other parishes and youth groups as well.

