

NEWS RELEASE

Date December 13, 2004
Contact: Bryan Schrepel 913-758-6165
E-mail: schrepelb@stmary.edu



Cookies and Carols Christmas Concert a Success Had by All

*December 7th Concert at University of Saint
Mary leaves everyone fulfilled*



(Leavenworth, Kan.)— A splendid mix of Holiday cheer and a thoughtful cause made Saint Joseph Dining Hall the place to be Tuesday, December 7th at 7:30 p.m. In the spirit of giving, the University of Saint Mary Community Band’s Christmas Concert raised more than \$550 to ensure everyone has a marvelous Christmas morning filled with cheers and smiles instead of jeers and frowns.

The funds raised by the concert were donated to Mosaic, a non-profit agency that provides support and advocacy for people who have disabilities in the Kansas City area. The money will be used to purchase Christmas presents for those who would otherwise not have a gift and for other unmet needs.

While performing wondrous holiday favorites such as “Sleigh Ride” and “A Fresh Aire Christmas,” the community band set up a cookie café with homemade Christmas cookies, candies, and breads for sale. The Saint Mary community, led by Assistant Professor of Music, Freda Proctor, saw the cause as a true test of learning through serving others. Proctor learned about Mosaic through her son, Jon, a Saint Mary alum and service coordinator for Mosaic. She was ecstatic about the turnout.

“We saw this concert as an excellent opportunity to help through service learning,” Proctor said. “I hoped we could raise maybe \$200. The Saint Mary community came together and surpassed our expectations. We certainly learned a lot about what it means to help others in need that night.”

In addition to the band’s performance, Thad Livingston, an autistic man supported by Mosaic, sang two classics, “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” and “Silent Night.” Livingston’s harmonious performances stole the show. According to Proctor, there wasn’t a dry-eye in the house.

Pictured: Thad Livingston performs “Silent Night” at the University of Saint Mary Community Band Christmas Concert on Tuesday, December, 7th. Livingston suffers from autism, but stole the show with the sweet serenades of holiday classics.