St. Vincent de Paul Waukesha County Monthly Newsletter

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REMINDERS November 2022

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Monthly Quote for Reflection

"Free your mind of anything that troubles you; God will take care of it."

~St. Vincent de Paul

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ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH

November 2022				
7 - St. Bruno				
14 - St. Charles				
21 - St. James, Muk				
28 - St. Joan of Arc				

SVdP Meal Program Volunteer Commitment

The number of guests at the Meal Program is increasing. Please note new requirements: It is asked that 6-7 conference members arrive at 4:50 with 4 gallons of milk (2 white & 2 chocolate) and 80-100 desserts of any type. The commitment is comprised of serving the meal with cleanup afterwards, normally completed by 6:30. Thank you all for your great support of the SVdP Monday meal program. Please contact Peggy Fahl to confirm your assignment and/or if you have any questions. Call/text 414-828-6999 or email pegfahl@gmail.com

Nov 2

New Conference President Training

9:30 am - Waukesha Council Conference room All officers are invited and encouraged to attend with your new leader!

November 24

Happy Thanksgiving!

The Council Office will be closed on Nov 24 & 25.

WAUKESHA COUNCIL

Conference Annual Reporting (Due date October 21)

As of Monday, Oct 31, twenty Conferences have submitted their Conference Annual Report. Please let this serve as a reminder! All Conference Annual Reports must be submitted, consolidated, and balanced for the office to complete the 'Council' Annual Report. Your diligence carries over to the Council! Please submit as soon as possible.

State of Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions Registration and Filing

The (Council) Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Waukesha County Inc is registered with the State of Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions as a Charitable Organization and files a report to the State annually. As announced at our last meeting, this requirement extends to conferences also. In reviewing the State of WI instructions, it will not be a one size fits all to what forms are to be used. Each conference will be reviewed, and officers will be forwarded the appropriate instruction to complete and file accordingly. This will be an ongoing report to the Department of Financial Institutions. Conferences will be directed to take care of this filing on or before February 15, the same date 990's are due.

W-9's - IRS 1099-MISC

Thank you to all Conferences who have been diligent in gathering and sending W-9's and payment tracking spreadsheets to the Council office. Reporting is for the 2022 calendar year, not our fiscal year. Bonnie needs copies of your W-9's and tracking reports no later than *January 3, 2023* so send what you have now and the rest later. This information needs to be combined and sent to our accountants, who submit 1099-MISC forms to the IRS on our behalf. You'll find a blank W-9 and the tracking form attached to these Reminders, as well as on our website under Conference Officer Forms/Treasurer.

Safeguarding

Most of you are familiar with the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Program(s) Safeguarding All of God's Family, Safe Environment Training, Working with Vulnerable Adults Training, etc. Each training also requires a background check. Many of you may have taken this training at your parish.

It is coming to SVdP. Councils across the US are in process of creating a policy specific to their Council that will state that all SVdP 'people' - MEMBERS, Volunteers, Employees, etc. will be directed to take a Safeguarding training. And it makes sense! Home Visitors enter homes, store staff work with vulnerable people through the voucher system, Programming provides services for people in need. That's what we do!

At this point, this is solely an announcement, a heads-up to what is coming. Safeguarding training will be a requirement at SVdP. As this process unfolds and details sorted out, you will be updated.

SVdP NATIONAL AND NORTH CENTRAL REGION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Disaster Relief (Donations)

Last month, you may have received the Annual Disaster appeal from the National office in your inbox. In the event you did not please click here: <u>https://ssvpusa.org/disaster-relief/09-29-22-servant-leaders/</u> You will find a great explanation of the Disaster Relief program, the support it offers and how to donate as a member/ individual.

How to donate?

If members determine to make a conference or individual donation, place in the memo field on your check: "Annual Disaster Appeal" and mail to National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Inc., 66 Progress Parkway, Maryland Heights, Missouri 63043-3706.

Some conferences prefer to send their donations to the Waukesha Council to help track conference donations locally. On a quarterly basis, any Disaster Relief donations are forwarded to the National office. Important! Disaster donations should not be earmarked for a specific disaster. Disaster funds are used to help all SVdP Councils / Conferences in 150+ Countries who have been affected by a disaster - even those Disasters that may only get a mention or do not even reach the news media. Please refrain from sending a restricted donation earmarked for a specific disaster.

Action Required

National President Election

All conferences across the US are participating in this important election. Two nominees have been chosen. Ralph Middlecamp, National Council President's 2nd term will conclude 9/30/2023. The election process is underway and each conference and its members will play an integral role in this important election.

At the National Assembly Business Meeting in Baltimore in September, by secret ballot vote, the National Council Members selected <u>John Berry</u> and <u>Brian Burgess</u> as the two candidates to stand for election as National Council President. You may not know these two candidates, but they have both served multiple roles within the Society.

The two candidate's platform presentations were recorded at the National Assembly and made available for all members to view. <u>Click here</u>. Meet the candidates and take a listen to their presentations and prepare to cast your vote at an upcoming Conference meeting for the new Society of St. Vincent de Paul National President.

Leaders received a packet of materials (instructions and forms) to present at a Conference meeting. If you have not yet addressed this important election, now is the time.

Ballots are due to the SVdP Milwaukee Archdiocesan office on or by November 14. Mail to St. Vincent de Paul, P.O. Box 26537, Milwaukee, WI 53226

Waukesha strives for 100% conference participation in this important election.

Action Required

North Central Region Vice President Election – Nominating Process

Coinciding with the timing of the National President, Region Vice President elections are held. All conferences throughout the US are to be involved with the nominating and election of the Vice President of their region.

Our North Central Region Vice President Tom Pelger, will conclude his term Sept. 30, 2023. Nominations are now being accepted for this important role.

Attached to the November REMINDERS you will find a cover letter and documents necessary to nominate someone for this position. It also contains documents the nominees will have to complete.

All conferences must respond. Please contact Bonnie <u>bpranger@svdpwauksha.com</u> in both instances; if your conference will submit a nomination OR if you do not have a candidate. Thank you.

Conference Standards of Excellence

Some of you may recall Conference Standards of Excellence. It was a list of items specific to the RULE of how conferences should operate, displaying a Standard for all Conferences to strive for. Several years ago, all conferences used this tool and were asked to do a self-analysis of where their conferences were at and identify areas that needed to be worked on/improved.

The National Council will soon be presenting a revised version of Conference Standards of Excellence. You will be informed when the Council receives this.

And note! The Council has Standards of Excellence to follow as well! We are all ONE Society. We all follow the SVdP Rule. It makes good sense to revisit these standards and ensure that we are all operating at our best. Stay tuned!

PROGRAMS & MINISTRIES

2022 Back-to-School Program Summary (M-F Aug 8 – Aug 19)

The program was hosted at St. William in the gym. Students from Catholic Memorial and Waukesha Catholic Community assisted with the assembling the backpacks. Two to four members were on site daily, sorting supplies, contributing to the backpack assembly and leading volunteers.

Program Stats:

- 9 conferences hosted supply donation drives
- 3 conferences hosted cash donation drives
- 420 kids received a backpack, grade appropriate supplies and a \$15.00 gift card. (2 GC's from 2020)
- 61 additional kids (late requests) received a backpack & grade appropriate supplies
- 153 volunteer hours

Thank you to Jackie Meyer, St. William, and all the volunteers involved with this programs success.

2022 Summer Lunch Program Summary (June 20 – August 4)

The 2022 Summer Lunch Program returned to its roots partnering with Park Recreation and Forestry's Dept Park Program supporting their park program kids and to needy families in the community. Waukesha calendar lined up with the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Dept Parks Program. The SVdP program ran 6 weeks instead of 12 weeks in 2022. Eleven conferences and one parish Outreach participated, each serving 2 days per week.

A total of 612 lunches were served with an average of 25 lunches served per day. This was significantly lower than previous years.

At the October 18, 2022 Summer Lunch Wrap-up Meeting members had a vibrant discussion evaluating the program and the need in the City of Waukesha. There was a consensus to continue the program in 2023; to not abandon the partnership with WPRF because of low registration in 2022 or diminish the need of the kids/families that do arrive at the park. Also, because left-over lunches are brought to Hope Center, Juno House, etc. our program still greatly benefits the needy in the community. A 2023 calendar will be put in place for conferences to sign up.

Jail Ministry News

Project Angel Tree

Project Angel Tree is a program that provides Christmas gifts to the children of the incarcerated. The Jail Ministry and many Waukesha Conferences are involved in this great program. Judene Brown, St. Dismas member and Dismas help desk worker is spearheading this program.

Can you help?

Members are needed to assist with Christmas gift deliveries. The majority of deliveries are in Waukesha and Milwaukee Counties. If you can help or to simply want to learn more, contact Judene (or Dawn) at <u>dismas@svdpwaukesha.com</u> or call 262.547.2726.

GETTING AHEAD

Please see the attached flyer for the next Bridging Seminar being held on Wednesday, November 16. See you there!

Jodie LaChapelle

Getting Ahead Program Director 262-547-0654 office 262-765-0744 cell phone jlachapelle@svdpwaukesha.com



Ending Poverty – One person, One neighborhood, One community at a time.

Patron Grant Fund

Has your conference assisted a neighbor that desired a change to their situation; someone who may need a hand up to reach their goal? If so, this could be a candidate for the Patron Grant Fund.

The Patron Grant Fund Program provides grants to neighbors in need in four categories: Rehabilitation Treatment, Health Treatment, Job Training, and Education. These 4 areas are defined broadly. Do not hesitate to question an individual's goal and possible eligibility to participate in the Patron Grant Program.

As you do your Home Visits, keep your eyes and ears open. Your next visit could be the person with a goal that seems unreachable to them. The Patron Grant Fund could be the answer to helping them find success to move beyond their life situation.

STORES 🔯

Electronic Voucher Updates

- The Voucher Categories and Values sheet is in the process of being re-evaluated. Look to find updated values attached to the December Reminders, or check the website under Member Forms & Supplies/Electronic Vouchers to get them sooner!
- Stores continue to ask Bonnie to make corrections to Vouchers when a Patron is here shopping and categories are incorrect or other minor error has been made. Rather than inconvenience the Patron, she will fix it and inform the member. Please take a few minutes to read the Voucher Instructions (also recently updated) to refresh your memory on the finer points of entering a voucher and why it's done that way. It will save you time when entering the info, and help facilitate the checking out process for your Patron.
- We are happy to report that the extra drop-down lists in the Clothing, Furniture and Home categories have been removed. Only General Clothing/General Furniture/General Home remain. Clicking on the category name in the main list will suffice. There is no need to open the drop-down any longer.
- As always, if you have any questions when filling out a voucher, feel free to call Bonnie at any time for assistance. Use her cell number on evenings and weekends.

New Donation Hours

Effective November 1st the store donation hours will be expanding. This will be the new schedule:

M-F 10am - 5pm

Sat. 9am - 5pm

Sun. 11am - 5pm

Store contact information:

Waukesha: John Erdmann, 262-547-3281, jerdmann@svdpwaukesha.com Oconomowoc: Chandler Papa, 262-569-0761, cpapa@svdpwaukesha.com Pewaukee: Ryan Bay, 414-659-0129, rbay@svdpwaukesha.com SVdP Sunday Scheduler/Truck Driver: Jason Schmittinger, 262-720-0386, jschmittinger@svdpwaukesha.com Director of Marketing & Development: Rod Colburn rcolburn@svdpwaukesha.com

CONFERENCE RESOURCES

Wisconsin Help for Homeowners

Wisconsin Help for Homeowners (WHH) is a new statewide program that can help with overdue bills like mortgage payments, property taxes, utilities, and more. The program is open to individuals and families who live in Wisconsin with overdue housing-related bills, both with and without a mortgage, who meet income and other eligibility requirements, and have experienced a qualified economic hardship since January 21, 2020. The deadline to apply is December 30, 2022. Click *HERE* for qualification and application details, and more.

2022 Christmas Clearing Council

Conferences may refer their friends in need to the Christmas Clearing Council for assistance over the holidays. They will find detailed information at: <u>https://www.christmasclearingcouncil.org</u>

- Application Deadline: November 15, 2022 at 11:59 pm. Make note!
- Qualifications: <u>https://www.christmasclearingcouncil.org/qualifications</u>
- Applications_are available in English and in Spanish: <u>https://www.christmasclearingcouncil.org/application</u>

2022-2023 Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)

WHEAP provides assistance for heating costs, electric costs, and energy crisis situations. Operating with federal and state funding, the program provides assistance to households across the state to help lower the burden incurred with monthly energy costs. Most types of fuel are eligible to receive assistance. Whether you use wood, propane, natural gas, electricity, or fuel oil to heat your home, energy assistance is available if you qualify. To access the forms needed to apply, <u>CLICK HERE</u> or call 866-432-8947. For other forms of energy related assistance, go to <u>https://energyandhousing.wi.gov/Pages/Energy.aspx</u>

Conference and Member Questions and Answers (from the E-Gazette National Newsletter)

Q: We have a situation with a Conference working with an individual who is "cheating the system" to get more help. Would it be wise for them to report this to the police or just let it go?

A: One of the categories in our non-discrimination statement is "criminal justice status." We also are concerned about the safety of children and vulnerable adults. If the suspicion of "cheating the system" is serious enough then it should be reported, as a matter of conscience.

Index of Conference & Member Q & A

Questions and answers appear in the E-Gazette, the National E-newsletter. The National office has put together a collection of all Questions & Answers since this practice started! <u>Index of Conf & Member Q&A's</u> Pam Hudson, National Director of Governance & Membership Services, <u>phudson@svdpusa.org</u>

WHAT'S AHEAD

December 2022	January 2023	
5 - St. Jerome	2 - St. William	
12 - St. Mary, Wauk	9 - St. Teresa of Calcutta	
19 - St. Anthony, Pew	16 - St. John Neumann	
26 - <mark>Day after Christmas</mark>	23 - St. Luke	
	30 - St. Joan of Arc	

SVDP Meal Program Volunteer Commitment Contact Peggy Fahl before your week for up-todate information on serving needs. Call/text at 414-828-6999 or email pegfahl@gmail.com

December 26 & January 2 Meal Services

A Conference was not assigned to serve the day after Christmas meal. Just one? Volunteers are needed to serve. Individual members, their family and/or friends are more than welcome and encouraged to help. Contact Peggy if you are interested in filling this need.

PETITIONS

Rest in Peace

Mother of Dave Wolfe, Vice President St. Anthony, Pewaukee *Tom Weber,* Member of Holy Apostles Conference

Blessings to you and your families this Thanksgiving Holiday!