

# St. Vincent de Paul Waukesha County Monthly Newsletter

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

## REMINDERS

### February 2023

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### Monthly Quote for Reflection

*"A grain of charity suffices to calm many anxieties and ease many differences.*

*~ St. Vincent de Paul*

To Use the Table of Contents:  
Hold your mouse over the topic of interest  
and press Ctrl + Click to jump to that section.

## Contents

ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH.....	2
WAUKESHA COUNCIL.....	2
SVdP NATIONAL AND NORTH CENTRAL REGION ANNOUNCEMENTS .....	5
PROGRAMS & MINISTRIES.....	5
GETTING AHEAD .....	5
STORES .....	6
CONFERENCE RESOURCES .....	6
WHAT'S AHEAD .....	7
PETITIONS .....	7

## ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH

February 2023
6 - St. Bruno
13 - St. Dominic
20 - St. Catherine
27 - St. John Vianney

### 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](mailto:pegfahl@gmail.com)

### February 8

#### New President Training

9:30 am, Council Conference Room

A New Conference President training will be held for newly elected presidents on February 8. If you are considering to run for this office or would like a refresher, you are welcome to join us. Contact Julie at

[jmcintyre@svdpwaukehsa.com](mailto:jmcintyre@svdpwaukehsa.com)

### February 15

#### Bridging Seminar

11:00am – 1:30pm, Council Meeting Room

Registration Required. See attached flyer.

### February 21

#### Best Practices

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Council Meeting Room

Best Practice sessions are hosted by Conference Presidents focusing on topics they choose to discuss.

Submit your agenda topic to Julie at [jmcintyre@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:jmcintyre@svdpwaukesha.com) on or before Monday, February 13.

### March 4

#### Ozanam Orientation

Council Meeting Room, 818 W. Sunset Dr, Waukesha

Registration begins 8:15am, Program from 8:30am-1:30pm

[Register Here](#)

## WAUKESHA COUNCIL

### IRS 990 Filings due February 15, 2023

All Presidents and Treasurers have received the appropriate 990 filing instructions. Check your inbox. If you did not receive, check your spam folder or give Julie a call. Be sure that once this filing is attended to, the Council office receives the IRS confirmation. We must keep all IRS filing confirmations in Conference records. Send to Bonnie at [bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com)

### 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.

Twelve out of the 26 conferences will also need to register and file an appropriate report (reporting documents differ) with the State of Wisconsin due to their income. All conference Presidents/Treasurers were notified of who is and who is not required to file. McIntyre will create an example of the forms to conferences to use as a guide.

Once this initial filing process is completed, conferences will be required to file a report annually to the Department of Financial Institutions. McIntyre will also monitor income thresholds annually and inform

conferences required to file as necessary.

### **Safeguarding Update**

A SVdP Milwaukee Archdiocesan Safeguarding Policy DRAFT has gone out to all Councils for review. Once approved by the SVdP Archdiocesan Council all 9 Councils will follow its protocol.

Safeguarding Training includes a background check and will be a requirement for everyone associated with the Society, active & associate members, all volunteers, and all employees.

Once the Archdiocesan Policy is finalized, Council/Conferences will be notified and instructed accordingly.

### **Resolution to Appoint Anne Konop to Board of Directors**

Thank you for your conference vote! The resolution passed by majority on 1/20/23.

### **St. Joseph Waukesha Conference – Plea for Assistance**

Help calls continue to be at a high volume at St. Joe's. They need some help!

St. Joe's is one of our neediest conferences; help calls come in daily and their membership is scant. It has always been a struggle at St. Joe's to gain new members. Its membership is down to 4 Active members (3 who do Home Visits) and all of their efforts in the past and present to gain new members has been unsuccessful. Fr. Jorge Perez, a strong supporter of SVdP, has been brought into this discussion and has and will continue to promote joining St. Joseph conference also.

Currently, St. John Vianney Conference twins with them by sharing members and resources by adopting some of their help calls, attending to the Home Visit and assistance needed, and reports accordingly in their conference records. Can your conference help?

One consideration could be to for a conference to take on one day of help calls; retrieve voice mails on a M, T, W, TH, or F and simply adopt these friends in need by following up just as you would someone from your own neighborhood.

And we look to conferences to brainstorm how to support St. Joseph as well.

### **Conference Standards of Excellence**

All levels of the Society are required to go through this exercise and report findings to the National Council. Standards are based on the RULE to learn the health of each SVdP level and identify where there may be work to be done to comply with the RULE.

The Waukesha Council went through this process at the 1/20/22 Board mtg. The SVdP Archdiocesan Council also went through the process on January 16, 2023. This will extend to conferences. A launch date has not been determined. Stay tuned.

### **Little Food Pantry – St. Luke Conference**

The Little Food Pantry, located outside the front door at the Waukesha Store, was started by the "Mini-Vinnies" group at St. Luke Parish in Brookfield. The Mini-Vinnies were a group of high school Faith Formation kids who wanted to do some charitable work. They converted an old newspaper box into an easily accessible pantry of food items directed mainly to homeless or others who might be temporarily out of food.

This worked well with several parish families volunteering in collecting the food and keeping the little pantry stocked. Over time however, that group of teens have graduated and gone on to college. There is only one family now doing all the work of keeping the pantry stocked. We believe that this work could be shared to make the burden a little lighter.

As we re-establish our St. Luke parish "Mini-Vinnie" group, we thought that perhaps other parishes might be interested in helping with this effort. After all, the Little Food Pantry is really a Waukesha Council outreach

program. It's an excellent opportunity to get volunteer hours for older kids and would also provide an introduction and insight into St. Vincent de Paul's mission; perhaps planting the seeds for future Vincentians.

We are working on developing a systematic schedule for keeping the pantry stocked. If your Conference would be interested in participating in this, please feel free to call or contact us to discuss. We can then go over the "what and how" the pantry is kept fully stocked.

### **Key Events Calendar**

You'll find the 2023 Key Events Calendar attached to these Reminders. This calendar lists the times and places of all formation opportunities, trainings, program involvement and meetings. You'll never have to be unsure if your conference is up for the meal program, summer lunch, or if you've missed signing up for Home Visit Training. Check the Member Info home page often to see if it has been updated.

### **Summer Lunch Program**

The 2022 Summer Lunch Program was reconstructed. Lunches were served at Saratoga Stem school only during the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Dept Parks Program. Their Parks Program attendance has been consistently low over the last 3-years and they have determined they will move their park program to a different park location in Waukesha. That location has yet to be determined. SVdP Summer Lunch conference participants have been notified. It is hoped to gain the location change information by the end of March when a Summer Lunch Start-up meeting is typically held.

### **Back-to-School Program (M-F Aug 7 – Aug 17)**

The St. William parish gym has been reserved. Most parish calendars are already in place. Consider hosting a supply drive on a weekend! Keep in mind donations will be accepted through Monday, August 14.

### **Patron Grant Fund Program**

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.

### **Thrift Works**

All conferences should be using Thrift Works. This is an internal database exclusive to SVdP members to assist in forming a good case history on those you serve. The tool is used to document any assistance provided, not just store Vouchers. And it only takes a few minutes to enter the data. As a result, you can learn how many times someone has been served, by who, what type of assistance was provided, how long ago, etc. This can be very beneficial to you with every help call you receive.

The Thrift Works database is only as accurate as the information entered into the system.

As an example, it was recently learned that a homeless person (with no real address) received help from 4 different conferences over the last 3 weeks. Had the information been entered timely, a simple view of the person's name in Thrift Works would have identified the conferences and the assistance they provided.

The intent of Thrift Works is not for the purpose of making snap decisions on whether to provide assistance. Its purpose is to provide good communication between conferences. In the event other conferences were involved in assisting the same person requesting help from your conference, you would know exactly who to call to discuss the situation and learn the case history. You simply become better informed.

If you do not use Thrift Works and need help to get started, full instructions on how to download this app and use the program is posted on our website:

[www.stvincentwaukesha.org](http://www.stvincentwaukesha.org) > member info tab > forms & supplies.

Further questions, contact Bonnie. [bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com)

## SVdP NATIONAL AND NORTH CENTRAL REGION ANNOUNCEMENTS

### North Central Region Meeting

**June 15 – 17, 2023**

The 2023 North Central Regional Meeting will be held at St. Mary of the Lake University, Mundelein, IL 1000 E. Maple Ave. Mundelein, IL 60060

It's not too early to make plans to attend!

### Jail Ministry News

#### Project Angel Tree

This was Judene Brown's first year being leader of this project and she sang the praises of all the volunteers and conference members that participated. "Angel Tree is rewarding in itself but added to that, everyone was so nice and helpful. It was a pleasure to work with everyone involved." Judene extends her gratitude and appreciation to everyone that participated.

That being said, Judene has announced she cannot continue to be the lead next year and is looking for another member to take it over. As Project Angel Tree has been running for several years, step-by-step instructions are written and, of course, Judene will work closely with her replacement to make the transition even easier. Please consider this important ministry and email [dismas@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:dismas@svdpwaukesha.com) if interested.

#### Jail Ministry Intake Position

Thank you to those of you who applied for this position. The Jail Ministry team is in process of reviewing applications.

## GETTING AHEAD

Thank you so much for your continued support of Getting Ahead. We have two great ways to get involved in our upcoming March workshops.

1. **Referrals.** Attached is the flyer for our English-speaking workshop, and we still have spots open! If you are working with someone looking to make a change and increase their financial stability, let us know. We also are running our workshop in Spanish, so please connect with us if there is a Spanish speaker interested.
2. **Meal teams.** The meal is such an important part of the evening and there are different ways to get involved.
  - a) Donating homemade meals and serving dinner,
  - b) Delivering substantial boxed meals (we can provide the boxes), or
  - c) Providing financial donations towards meals (and we can order the food).

Here is a link to sign up for the date(s) you would like to participate. We estimate about 30 meals but will give you more information closer to the time: <https://signup.com/go/JintuVq>

We are also attaching our flyer for our next **Bridging Seminar** coming up on **February 15**, if you are interested, call or email us to save your spot.

We look forward to continuing to work with you towards a thriving Waukesha,

The Getting Ahead Team.

**Jodie LaChapelle**

Getting Ahead Program Director

262-547-0654 office

262-765-0744 cell phone

jlachapelle@svdpwaukesha.com



A St. Vincent de Paul program to help individuals and the community become more financially stable.

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

## STORES



### Electronic Voucher Updates or *ThriftWorks Isn't Just for Vouchers Anymore*

At the October Quarterly Membership Meeting, Regge Krueger, Conference Liaison, strongly suggested that every conference create a household record in ThriftWorks for every friend in need they work with, and not just with a voucher. Instructions on how record time & mileage, along with monetary and in-kind assistance for rent, transportation (gas), lodging (rent or motel), etc. are attached to these Reminders and posted on our website under Member Info/Member Forms & Supplies/Electronic Vouchers. It's an area of ThriftWorks that has been underused since its inception. To get the most out of this information, it is recommended that you look up every new friend on ThriftWorks before you meet with them. If there is a history, it would be valuable to be aware of their involvement with other conferences. If you have questions, it would also be acceptable to contact the conference for details.

### New Store Leadership

#### Pewaukee Store Manager

Former Assistant Manager, Matt Wojczak is now Store manager of the Pewaukee location.

#### Donation Bin Operations Manager

Ryan Bay will lead the large sector of donation bins/recycling operation in our stores.

***Congratulations to Matt and Ryan!***

### Donation Bin Program

A flyer has been created to promote the Donation Bin Program. (See attached)

*It has been asked that all conferences approach their Parish to inquire if they would agree to having a bin on the Parish grounds. What a great way to involve parishioners in the great work of St. Vincent de Paul stores with the convenience of a bin right at their parish!*

#### Store contact information:

Waukesha: John Erdmann, 262-547-3281, jerdmann@svdpwaukesha.com

Oconomowoc: Chandler Papa, 262-569-0761, cpapa@svdpwaukesha.com

Pewaukee: Matt Wojczak, 262-347-6165, mwojczak@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

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

**Q: When two meetings are held in the month — can the Reflection be omitted from one of the meetings to shorten the length of the meeting? I always believed having a Reflection item on the agenda was a necessary item in all meetings.**

**A:** All meetings must incorporate spirituality, fellowship, and service. While it could take several forms of varying lengths, some element of Spirituality must be included in every meeting agenda.

### **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! [Index of Conf & Member Q&A's](#) Pam Hudson, National Director of Governance & Membership Services, [phudson@svdpusa.org](mailto:phudson@svdpusa.org)

## **WHAT'S AHEAD**

<b>March 2023</b>	<b>April 2022</b>
6 - St. James, MF	3 - St. Mary, Wauk
13 - St. Charles	10 - St. Anthony, Pew
20 - St. James, Muk	17 - St. Leonard
27 - St. Jerome	24 - St. Joseph

### **SVDP Meal Program Volunteer Commitment**

Contact Peggy Fahl before your week for up-to-date information on serving needs. Call/text at 414-828-6999 or email [pegfahl@gmail.com](mailto:pegfahl@gmail.com)

### **March 4**

#### **Ozanam Orientation**

8:15am - 1:30pm

[Register Here](#)

## **PETITIONS**

### **Rest in Peace**

*Ralph Spindler*, Founding member of St. Joan of Arc