



St. Vincent de Paul Waukesha County

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AUGUST

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Monthly Quote for Reflection

"The poor cannot be judged by their outward appearance, nor by their show of wit, for very often they do not look nor seem like intelligent beings, so rough and homely are they."

~ St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Waukesha County Monthly Newsletter

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ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH

August 2025

4 - St. Joan of Arc

11 - St. Bruno

18 - St. Jerome

25 - St. Anthony

SVdP Meal Program Volunteer Commitment

- 8 conference members/volunteers arrive at 4:50
- 5 gallons of milk (2 white & 3 chocolate)
- **100 desserts of any type (updated due to consistent higher attendance)**
- Contact Peggy Fahl to confirm: Call/text 414-828-6999 or pegfahl@gmail.com

August 4 - 14

Back to School Program

St. William Gym, 440 N. Moreland Blvd.

Drop off your parish supply drive donations Aug 4-7 and Aug 11 from **9am - Noon**. Send in your conference backpack referrals to Robin Hernandez now through Aug 12.

We are also in need of some additional volunteers. Please contact our program lead Anne Radomski at 414.331.2203 of St. William Conference to see which days are in most need of more helpers.

August 11

8th Annual Neighbors Helping Neighbors Golf Outing

- If you have not already dropped off the Raffle Basket for your conference, please do so ASAP.
- Congratulations to John Erdmann and everyone who has worked on our upcoming Golf Outing. 🏌️ For the first time, it is **SOLD OUT** and has reached its highest sponsorship level yet! This means our Vincentians will be able to do even more good through the Needy Family Fund.

August 27 – 30

National Assembly, Louisville, KY

September 1 - Labor Day and Meal Service

The Council Office is closed but the Meal Service goes on. Just 3 more volunteers are needed to serve. Please contact Peggy Fahl if you are willing to help. Bring your Friends! Call/text 414-828-6999 or email pegfahl@gmail.com

WAUKESHA COUNCIL

Good Communication between Conferences.

Did you know? Conferences may help anyone, but if they help someone from within another conference's boundaries, they should work with that conference to determine the help to be given and protect against duplication of services.

Unfortunately, in some circumstances the communication between conferences involves a patron that raises some concerns. In this case, there are two methods to alert other conferences, and you may use both. First, contact Bonnie at the Council office to send an "alert" email to other conference officers to contact your conference about a particular patron. Second, the records in Thiftworks/Cares include an alert function that will be highlighted in the patron's record.

Add

[Alert](#) [Care Card](#) [Followup](#)

[Meeting](#) [Person](#) [Children](#)

[Referral](#) [Tag](#) [Store Voucher](#)

Timeline

Possible conference shopping. If contacted, refer to St John Neumann. (council) (x)

[hide alerts](#)

On the Air!

Kudos to Rob Shelledy and Mary Freisleben from the St. Luke Conference for their appearance on the local Catholic podcast *Living Our Faith*, where they shared how we "know the poor by name" in our work at St. Vincent de Paul. It's a great introduction to what we do. 🎧 [Listen here](#).

Finalist in the Nonprofit Excellence Awards!

The awards reception was on 7/24/25. We were recognized with some of the leading nonprofits in Southeast Wisconsin and their donors & volunteers. Over 400 people attended the Award reception.

We were a finalist for the Social Enterprise of the Year along with two other great organizations. Unfortunately, one of those other finalists won the award. Seeking this award was not to validate us. We know the difference we make every day. The goal was to open the eyes of the region to our beloved St. Vincent de Paul Waukesha!



Following the awards, Bob met with the publisher of the Milwaukee BizTimes who toured the Waukesha store earlier this year. Dan was still raving about our operations and later stopped in at the Pewaukee store with his wife. He said, he tells everyone about St. Vincent de Paul. We hear similar positive reviews on social media and when we are out in the community.

Each of you makes a difference every day, when you treat our shoppers and neighbors in need with dignity and respect. When you give someone with a checkered past a chance at redemption. Each time you find ways to grow our bottom line not because it grows our profit, but because it increases our impact in the lives of our neighbors. You make St. Vincent de Paul not only good, but special! Thank you for all you do!

Conference President Elections

Presidents, does your first or second term end on September 30? Now is the time to begin the election process. Even if you desire to continue on to a second term, you must still hold an election. Materials can be found in the Member Info section of our website under *Member Info/Conference Officer Forms/Conference President Election Forms*. All Presidents, new or starting their second term, must fill out and submit the *New Conference President Agreement* to Rob Shelledy at the Council office.

To date, two conferences have informed us they have already held elections and voted in their new President Elect (highlighted below). As for the remaining conferences, please let us know the results of your elections.

1st Term ending 9/30/25

Our Lady of Guadalupe – César Bojórquez
Queen of Apostles – Carol Fitzpatrick
St. Benedict – Mary Maus
St. Catherine – Greg Wojczak
St. James Muk – Dan Doornek & Joe Pease
St. Luke – John Goetter
St. Mary MF – Anne Konop

2nd Term ending 9/30/25

St. Bruno – Bill Evans
St. Jerome – Rick Boettner
St. Leonard – Liz Berlyn
St. Mary Wauk – John Graff

Thank you all for your hard work and leadership of your conferences.

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, they 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 ask 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 help them along in their journey to improve their situation. The next Patron Grant Fund Advisory Board meeting will be in September to review any applications that are submitted. **Applications are due no later than September 1.** You'll find information and the application on our website under Member Info / Council Programs & Ministries / Patron Grant Fund

PROGRAMS & MINISTRIES

Jail Ministry News

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of John Quaal, one of the founding fathers of the St. Dismas Jail Ministry. Lovingly referred to as 'St. John' by Council members and the incarcerated Friends he administered to, he set an example of compassion and patience to us all.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES: GETTING AHEAD AND HOUSING

St. Vincent de Paul programs that work to involve community members in pathways to self-sufficiency and long-term, systemic solutions. This includes Getting Ahead and Housing.

Jodie LaChapelle, Director of Community Engagement

jlachapelle@svdpwaukesha.com

262-765.0744

Getting Ahead - Workshop Season Starts in 2 Months!

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

◆ Help us Spread the Word!

The Getting Ahead program empowers individuals to build a path toward financial stability and a better future. If you know someone who could benefit, please refer them to us.

Call: 262-547-0654 or Email: gettingahead@svdpwaukesha.com

◆ Want to Make a Direct Impact? Sponsor a Meal!

Support our participants by sponsoring a meal during one or more workshop sessions.

Sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/NLxqCCp>

◆ Volunteer Opportunities

Be a mentor or facilitator and walk alongside neighbors as they work toward financial stability.

We're grateful for your continued support - **Let's make this Fall another season of transformation!**

- The Getting Ahead Team (Liliana and Monique)

Housing - We are here to support you!

St. Vincent de Paul program to provide a pathway to housing stability, guiding Vincentians through prevention, diversion, urgent accommodations, and housing in Waukesha County.

◆ Open House

Our Housing team is available to help, from resources and emergency shelter to housing placement. To learn more, see our offices, ask questions, or even just to say hello... we are offering an Open House! On Wednesdays in August, from 1-4pm, our offices will be open in the Hope Center (101 W Broadway) to drop in. If you prefer to find another time, or would rather talk by phone, just reach out. We would be happy to give a tour of the Hope Center as well. We hope to see you on August 6th, 13th, 20th or 27th!

◆ Deep Dives into Housing

While we will continue to highlight announcements in the reminders, we will also be sending out a more detailed Housing communication called Opening Doors. This will include details on our pilot, frequently asked questions, the status of shelters, and more.

♦ **Contact Us:** Please reach out to our team if you have any questions. This contact information is specifically for the conference members, not the neighbor in need, as we want to remain a resource for you.

♦ Shelia Kincy - Call: 262-282-2861 or Email: skincy@svdpwaukesha.com
Emergency Shelter and Community Resources

♦ Ramon Candelaria - Call: 262-225-5760 or Email: rcandelaria@svdpwaukesha.com
Landlord engagement, pilot and long term housing support

- The Housing Team (Ramon and Shelia)

STORES

Electronic Voucher Updates

MATTRESS PRICE CHANGES: Effective August 1, the costs for both the mattresses and platforms have changed, but while the mattresses have increased slightly, the platforms have decreased resulting in an overall lower cost for the set for Full & Queen sizes! Twins remain the same price. Speaking of mattresses, store management asks that you try not to include delivery on a voucher for just a twin mattress and/or platform. These are small enough to fit in any car and the delivery cost means we lose money on the transaction. Ask the patron if they have a friend who can help pick it up, or possibly a conference team would consider doing so.

Please print out the attached Categories & Values Sheet to use the current pricing. And don't forget there is a Cliff Notes version of Voucher Instructions on the back side of the sheet. Basic voucher entry mistakes continue to happen so please review them to refresh your memory. Thank you.

Store contact information:

Waukesha: John Erdmann, 262-719-8486, jerdmann@svdpwaukesha.com

Oconomowoc: Bridgette Bronk, 262-853-8257, bbronk@svdpwaukesha.com

Pewaukee: Matt Wojczak, 262-347-6165, mwojczak@svdpwaukesha.com

SVdP Sunday Scheduler/Truck Driver: Tommy Colburn, 262-693-7124, tcolburn@svdpwaukesha.com

Chief Operating Officer: Rod Colburn rcolburn@svdpwaukesha.com

CONFERENCE RESOURCES

Conference Corner

Greetings from St. Dominic conference. May the joy and peace of Christ be with you all. Our conference was chosen for an article this month and I am pleased to take this opportunity to share a little bit about us. Our conference consists of 11 Active members, 12 Associate members, and 6 Lead Home visitors. Our conference takes to heart the importance of our friendship, love for our patrons and growing in holiness through the carefully discerned commitment to the vocation of being a Vincentian. Our conference involves many of the same activities as other conferences such as serving at the Hope Center, serving lunches through the summer lunch program, and participating in drives such as the back-to-school program and the jail ministry, to name a few.

We believe that serving our Patrons through home visits and providing them with friendship and spiritual encouragement is the most important part of our ministry. We seek to be the face of Christ to each other and to our Patrons, not to judge, to treat others with dignity, to help in every way we can including providing non-monetary resources, and to walk with our Patrons as long as it takes while they are working to better their circumstances. When we are faced with challenges, we have deeper discussions and seek discernment from the Holy Spirit to always do the right thing and act out of love. We have many times said, "There is no job too big for God." So, we put our faith in God knowing He will provide.

Our conference knows how to run a good business. We have all our records contained electronically in drive folders such as Patron record keeping, Treasury documents, policies and procedures and more. We nurture

friendship through our ministry and service to others and gather with Christmas parties and summer picnics. We work hard but also know how to have fun together!

I would like to close with the St. Dominic Parish Mission Statement, which is very fitting to us all. "Seek Christ, Know Christ and become Christ each for the sake of us all."

God's Blessings, from the St. Dominic Conference



If you would like to have your conference featured next month, share a FIN's success story, or a conference Best Practice, please send them to Rob Shelledy at rshelledy@svdpwaukesha.com or 262-327-8089.

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

Q: What is the importance of sustainability when it comes to helping our neighbors in need? Should sustainability be questioned or sidelined during this period of financial uncertainty?

A: Although sustainability is what we hope to achieve with those we serve, it is not the goal of the Society and not questioned. It is our role to love those in need in the best way possible. Sometimes we help people now because it is the right thing to do, even if it means they will come back to us next week.

Index of Conference & Member Q & A

Questions and answers appear in the E-Gazette, the National E-newsletter. Find the full Q&A [Index](#) here. Submit your questions to Pam Hudson Johnson at phudson@svdpusa.org

September 2025	October 2025
1 - LABOR DAY	6 - St. Catherine
8 - St. Teresa of Calcutta	13 - St. James, MF
15 - St. William	20 - St. John Vianney
22 - St. Luke	27 - St. Dominic
29 - St. Leonard	

SVdP Meal Program Volunteer Commitment

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- 5 gallons of milk (2 white & 3 chocolate)
- **100 desserts of any type (due to higher attendance)**
- Contact Peggy Fahl to confirm: Call/text 414-828-6999 or pegfahl@gmail.com

September 9 - Blessed Frédéric Feast Day

And

September 27 - St. Vincent de Paul Feast Day

Celebrating Vincentian Feast Day this September

"Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:15-16.

How will your conference shine the light on the good work of the Society to attract new members, build fellowship and generate additional support for our neighbors in need during the September Feast Days for our Founder and Society namesake? A good example is St. John Newmann who hosts a recommitment ceremony as part of their Saturday Vigil Mass on September 27. Looking for some ideas?

<https://members.ssvpusa.org/communications-branding/>

PETITIONS

Prayers for Health

Joan Lapczynski, St. James Muk

Rick Boettner, President St. Jerome Conference

Rest in Peace

John Quaal, St. Dismas Conference, 92 yrs young

Sadie Buerger, wife of member & former Council President Bob Buerger, St. Charles Conference

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