

# REMINDERS

March 2018

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## ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH

March 2018
5 - St. James, Men. Falls
12 - St. Dominic
19 - St. Anthony on the Lake
26 - St. Jerome

### Meal Program SVDP Volunteer Commitment

Please note it is very important that eight (8) volunteers are present each Monday evening at 5:00 PM. If you do not have enough conference members to serve, please seek additional volunteers through your parish.

Conferences are encouraged to ask their Pastors, Associate Pastors, and/or Deacons to serve at the meal site. This gives our diners an opportunity to interact with the clergy. For those priests who are asked and are willing to volunteer, cite that the meal is a 90-minute commitment dedicated to feeding the hungry.

### March 1

#### VOP & VROP Informational Meeting

6:00 pm at the Council Office

This may be short notice (if you didn't see it in the February Mid-Month Reminders) but all members are welcome and encouraged to attend. See details below in the Voice of the Poor section.

### March 1

#### Paper Vouchers No Longer Accepted at Stores

As of March 1 the stores will not accept paper Vouchers from Patrons. If you have not had any member attend an Electronic Voucher Training yet, please contact Bonnie immediately to schedule training. Electronic Voucher Instructions are posted on the SVdP website under Member Info (login: svdp, password: vincent) > Member Info, Forms & Supplies

### March 4

#### Our Faith in Action Series

EWTN will be airing a 10-episode series that reflects Catholic values beginning on Sunday, March 4. Join SVdP members on their spiritual growth journey through service to people and families in need. From the Society's traditional home visits, food pantries and assistance with rent and utilities, to innovative health care, financial and mentoring programs, Vincentians see the face of Christ in the people they encounter. In this 10-week series, Vincentians volunteer across the country to bring effective, personalized help to those in poverty, and share with you their stories of Christ's love along the way. Click [HERE](#) for a list of airing times and descriptions for each episode.

### March 6 **DATE CHANGE**

#### Summer Lunch Program Meeting

6:00pm at the Council Office

All conference Summer Lunch participants are invited to join in this kick-off dinner meeting on **Tuesday, March 6** to finalize the 2018 Summer Lunch Program calendar. Be prepared to confirm your conference leader(s) and commit to your dates (if you haven't already). If you know in advance of a date change needed, please contact Julie ASAP. Bring any new ideas you may have had since last year. Pizza is on the menu! RSVP for the meeting to Bonnie by March 5

### March 10

#### Take a New Look at Poverty

Waukesha Council Office, 818 W. Sunset Dr, Waukesha

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

### March 13

#### Home Visit Training

Waukesha Council Office, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

If you're a new member and attended the Ozanam Orientation last month, you received an overview of the Home Visit. This training is another part of Vincentian Formation and is an in-depth look at the Home Visit process that talks about expectations, tools, guidelines and above all, the Spirituality of the visit. And if you've

done Home Visits for years it may be time for a “refresher” to remind you that it’s not just about giving people money or a Voucher...it’s so much more to them, and for YOU!

Use the link below to register or contact Bonnie Pranger at [bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com) or 262-349-9027.  
[Register Here for Home Visit Training](#)

### **March 17**

#### **Food Pantry of Waukesha County (FPWC) Home Delivery Program**

1301 Sentry Drive, Waukesha

Conference Commitment for 3rd Saturday of the month: **St. Charles**

Jason Aide, SVDP Home Delivery Program Coordinator will continue to contact each conference in advance to confirm the number of vehicles, affirm automobile insurance, provide instructions and answer any questions. Jason Aide can be reached at 262-424-6017.

### **April 9**

#### **Ozanam Medallion Nominations**

The Ozanam Medallion is awarded to an individual or conference who has presented a model of service to the broader community, who has increased knowledge of the works of the Society and has assisted the Society in creating an image helpful in recruitment and resource development. Do you know an individual or conference who has achieved these goals?

Nominations must be submitted by April 9 to the SVdP Archdiocesan office. (St. Vincent de Paul, 9601 W. Silver Spring Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53225)

The Ozanam Medallion will be awarded at the Archdiocesan General Dinner meeting on April 22 at Holy Family Parish in Fond du Lac. You will find the Ozanam Medallion nomination form on our website: Member Login>Member Info, Forms and Supplies

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS – Waukesha Council**

### **Best Practices Meeting**

The first quarterly Best Practices Meeting was held on Feb. 20 and was very well received. Comments, questions and ideas were bouncing off the walls! If you would like to read about what was discussed, you’ll find minutes from the meeting posted on the SVdP website by logging into Member Info>Meetings & Trainings >Best Practices Meeting>Minutes

### **February 15**

Filing your Conference 990-N or 990-EZ was due by February 15. If you haven’t done so yet, you can still file without penalty but please give this your immediate attention. And don’t forget to provide the Council with a copy of the Accepted 990-N or the full 990-EZ form for our records. There are many conferences we still haven’t received confirmations from.

### **SVDP Sunday**

It’s time to schedule your weekend(s) for the store truck to visit your parish for the weekend and collect donations, and there’s a new person who has taken over the scheduling. We’re pleased to announce the addition of Larry Oberbruner who is now scheduling the delivery of store purchases and Conference SVDP Sundays. Larry joined us over the winter and is looking forward to hearing from all of you. He can be reached by calling 262-569-0763 or via email at [Truck@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:Truck@svdpwaukesha.com). Contact Larry early to get the choicest weekends...they’re filling up FAST.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – Stores

Sales at both of our stores continue to be strong, and our customer base is steadily growing from month to month. In an effort to help those who work for us, we have contracted a new insurance policy with a lower deductible with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for our employees, providing them access to affordable, quality healthcare.

Our new online voucher program is now in full swing and being used in every conference within our Council. Everyone seems very receptive and enthusiastic about this new process and it is running quite smoothly. The system is a momentous step towards allowing those we help to shop with comfort, confidence and dignity in our stores.

Store donations are down this time of year. Please consider a donation and tell your friends to donate also. Waukesha County SVdP will be doing a first annual Golf Outing on August 20th at Western Lakes Golf Club in Pewaukee. The proceeds will go to support the SVdP Needy Family Fund. Please save the date and consider participating. More info to follow. If you would like to sponsor or help with the outing, please contact John Erdmann at 262-547-3281.

We showed our volunteers some LOVE for Valentine's Day at both the Oconomowoc and Waukesha Stores. The volunteers had a chance to frost their own heart shaped cookies, make a Valentine for a loved one, and enjoy lunch while visiting with each other and listening to love songs.

If you have been thinking of joining us as a volunteer, now is the time to call and see what you have been missing. You can reach out to either store to fill out a volunteer application, and you will be on your way to helping our mission and have fun while doing so.

There are a lot of exciting things happening in our stores, and we look forward to growing even more as we move into the future. The larger we become, the more people we are able to assist. Thank you!

Waukesha Store Manager, John Erdmann

### Store contact information:

Waukesha: John Erdmann, 262-547-3281, [jerdmann@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:jerdmann@svdpwaukesha.com)

Oconomowoc: Chandler Papa, 262-569-0761, [cpapa@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:cpapa@svdpwaukesha.com)

Truck Pick-up/Delivery: Larry Oberbruner, 262-569-0763 [loberbruner@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:loberbruner@svdpwaukesha.com)

Store Marketing & Development: Rod Colburn [rcolburn@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:rcolburn@svdpwaukesha.com)

## COMING TOGETHER TO GET AHEAD

[Like on Facebook! Click here!](#)

### **Workshop Update**

We are midway through our 9<sup>TH</sup> Getting Ahead workshop! The workshop is an exciting 16 session opportunity for participants to look at creating change in their lives towards financial self-sufficiency. And while this workshop is underway, we are always planning for the next one. Please let us know if you have any interest in the following:

1. If you know of a potential workshop participant, please refer them to the program!
2. Becoming a mentor! Be there to encourage the participant as they work on their personal plan and be a bridge to community resources. To begin the mentor process, please attend our next Poverty Seminar!

To get involved or for more information, please contact Jodie Cleary, CTGA Program Manager. Jodie can be reached at 262-547-0654 or [jcleary@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:jcleary@svdpwaukesha.com).

## Poverty Seminar

Our next poverty seminar is being hosted here at the St. Vincent De Paul store on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 8am-1pm. The address is 818 W. Sunset Dr. Waukesha WI 53189. As always, the event is free but pre-registration is required. Through video presentation and discussion, you will consider new ways to view poverty. This is great information for new and seasoned Vincentians.

To register call Jodie at 262-547-0654 or [Register here!](#) Also, if you or your parish are interested in being the host for a poverty seminar, please reach out to Jodie!



Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Waukesha County  
Office: 262.547.0654  
Email: [ComingTogether@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:ComingTogether@svdpwaukesha.com)  
<http://stvincentwaukeshacounty.org/>

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

## PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES

### Summer Lunch Program

The program will run June 11 – August 31, 2018, all the days the kids will be on summer break. As mentioned in the Monthly Activities section above, participating conferences will meet March 6 to confirm conference commitments and identify open dates. Pizza is on the menu! **(Note the date change from March 8 to March 6)** RSVP to Bonnie at [bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com](mailto:bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com) by Monday, March 5.



### March 1

#### VOP Informational Meeting

6:00 pm at the Council Office

Waukesha Voice of the Poor (VOP) will meet on March 1. All interested parties are welcome to attend and learn how this committee will move forward. Ultimately, we will be searching for a person to assume the role of Chairperson and identify strong members to support VOP efforts.

VOP is the advocacy arm of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, with members representing every section and demographic of the nation. VOP identifies the issues that are critical to people living in poverty and helps bring attention to them so communities and our elected representatives can help develop strategies and tactics that will provide the most effective and efficient means to reduce and eliminate poverty.

St. Vincent de Paul members are on the front lines through our Home Visit Ministry. Who better to speak for those that have no voice. Ideally, a representative from every conference, at a minimum, should serve as a liaison to inform fellow members about the VOP committee activities. By keeping everyone informed we will raise awareness on issues that often go unnoticed, and even spark a fire in some of you to get involved. Join us at this informational meeting to learn more about the future of Voice of the Poor.

### VoterVoice Sign-up

As VROP and Partner, VOP ramp up activities, the VoterVoice tool will become an important method of communication.

What is VoterVoice? Do you remember Capwiz? **VoterVoice** now replaces Capwiz and is the Society's online tool that you can use to send advocacy messages to legislators (federal, and in some cases state

representatives), to voice your support or concern for certain legislative bills. Organizers from St. Vincent also use VoterVoice to inform us of issues that require our attention and VoterVoice is used to provide us with sample letters to send to our representatives. We are asked to add stories of the people we serve in our letters to help our legislators know how real people are being impacted by current laws and proposed legislation. While we never share the identities of the people we serve, we do share how they are impacted by current policy if we can help improve the laws that effect their well-being.

Sign up now and don't be left behind. Signing up is quick & easy:

1. Click on the link or cut & paste it into your browser of choice: <https://votervoice.net/SVDPUSA/home>
2. Scroll to the "Quick Sign Up" box at the bottom of the page
3. Enter your email address & zip code
4. Click the arrow on the right side of the zip code
5. Complete your sign up.

Yes, it is that easy to stay informed & be heard. Sign up now!

## CONFERENCE RESOURCES

### Free to Conferences

The Council has SVdP information cards available at no cost to Conferences. These cards are a 'snapshot' of what SVdP is all about. They are two-sided and are also available in Spanish. If you would like a supply of these to put out for parish members to show them what we do and how they can help, please let Bonnie know. Click [HERE](#) to see what they look like.

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

**Q: Is it required by members to obtain a copy of a driver's license and proof of insurance before issuing a gasoline card to those in need? Is there any National policy or position statement on this?**

A: This is a local decision. There are no national guidelines available. There are many Conferences that require seeing a driver's license and an insurance card, but again this is a local decision.

### Index of Conference & Member Q & A

Conference and Member questions and answers appear in the E-Gazette, the National E-newsletter. Similarly, each month questions and answers are chosen to publicize in the monthly REMINDERS because the question was asked at the Waukesha Council office.

The National office has put together the entire stream of all Conference and Member Questions & Answers since this practice started! This will be a great tool for conferences. Many inquiries are common throughout the US. This is a link worth saving!

[National Office Log and Index of Conference & Member Questions & Answers](#)

Pam Hudson, National Director of Governance & Membership Services  
[phudson@svdpusa.org](mailto:phudson@svdpusa.org)

## WHAT'S AHEAD

April 2018
2 - St. John Neumann
9 - St. Charles
16 - St. Teresa of Calcutta
23 - St. Jerome, Mini-Vinnies
30 - St. Joseph, Waukesha

### Meal Program SVDP Volunteer Commitment

Please note it is very important that eight (8) volunteers are present each Monday evening at 5:00 PM. If you do not have enough conference members to serve, please seek additional volunteers through your parish.

### April 21

#### Food Pantry of Waukesha County (FPWC) Home Delivery Program

1301 Sentry Drive, Waukesha

Conference Commitment for 3rd Saturday of the month: **St. Mary, Waukesha**

### April 21

#### Special Needs Resource Fair

St. Luke will be hosting a Special Needs Resource Fair on April 21 to help provide individuals and families with resources that they might need for a loved one. The fair will feature representatives from community organizations, guest speakers, a wheel chair obstacle course, and much more! Details will be included in the April Reminders.

### April 24

#### Safeguarding All of God's Family

Waukesha Council office  
818 W. Sunset Dr. Waukesha  
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

### April 30

#### Quarterly Membership Meeting

Waukesha Council office  
818 W. Sunset Dr. Waukesha  
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

All members are invited and encouraged to attend!

### May 12

#### Spiritual Advisors Regional Morning of Reflection

St. Anthony on the Lake, Pewaukee

Save the Date - All past, present and future Spiritual Advisors are invited to attend this morning of reflection for all North Central Region. More details to come.

## PETITIONS

### Prayers for Health

*Leo Kmiec*, Husband of Mary Ann Kmiec, St. James-Mukwonago

### Rest in Peace

*Mary Steppe*, found eternal peace on February 28. Mary was one of the first women to join the Society in the Milwaukee Archdiocese, played a large role in developing St. Dismas Jail Ministry in Waukesha, and was a former leader at both the National and local levels.