

VINCENTIAN *NewsFlash*



Special Features

DONOR SPOTLIGHT
Kentucky Colonels

CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHT
St. Joseph Camp Springs

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED





MESSAGE

FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT CASEY GUILFOYLE

The Legacy Continues: Serving in Hope for the Next 100 Years!

As we ring in 2023, SVDPN KY as a Council has exciting plans to celebrate **100 years of service** in our Northern Kentucky community. Please note the "Save the Date" information on our Centennial Celebration and our Annual Feast Day Celebration! We have grown from a few small parish conferences in 1923 to become a flourishing ministry. Nearly **600 committed Vincentians**, over **3,000 dedicated volunteers**, **98 mission-driven employees** and approximately **700 generous donors** have all combined forces to forge a strong legacy of "Serving in Hope."

The SVDP International motto of "Serviens in Spe," or "Serving in Hope," gives us an easy maxim to describe the important work we do. Vincentians serve in hope to build each other up in friendship; to support each other in prayer, spiritual growth and encouragement; and to mentor, train, and identify the unique talents of every member. This is how we expand the reach of our ministry, as we support new members and new parish conferences. We serve in hope as volunteers, staff, donors and Vincentians together identify and deliver services and programs to address the unmet needs of our neighbors who are struggling.

In 2023, we will recommit to serving in hope the needs of the homeless, the displaced, young families, the working poor, the elderly and the sick

or disabled. These needs have been increasing at an alarming rate this past year due to the rising cost of everything from housing to food and fuel. Yet, we place our trust in God to continue to give us the strength, the resources and the capacity to respond with compassion. This trust in God's providential care is the very foundation of our efforts to serve in hope!

By serving in hope, we are able to instill hope in others. We often assert that the most important part of our mission isn't found in our impact numbers but in providing "hope" to those in need by the personal relationships we foster. While one can survive without material goods, when one loses hope that tomorrow will be better than today, she has lost everything. Instilling hope and reminding our neighbors that God is walking with them, even in the face of extreme struggles, has been our defining ministry for 100 years. **As we begin a new centennial, we celebrate our legacy but also look forward to a future FULL of hope!**

Serviens in spe,

Casey Guilfoyle

Council President

IN THE NEWS

Adopt A Family Christmas Program



The St. Vincent de Paul N KY Adopt-A-Family program was a huge success. **We adopted 44 families and 115 children!** We had several local businesses adopt multiple families, which added to the success of the program. The families were so grateful and appreciative to have been blessed with so much kindness.

Christmas Meal Distribution at St. Barbara's

Every year we are blessed by a significant donation from an anonymous donor who provides meals for **400 families** served by our conferences. The food is picked up by our trucks and brought to St. Barbara where the St. Barbara Vincentians and a team of industrious volunteers separate the food for distribution to conferences. The conferences provide these meals to families so that they can celebrate Christmas with a special dinner. **We are grateful for this donation and for the well-organized team who executed this distribution flawlessly!**



Thanksgiving Meal Basket Distribution and Food Drives

With the help of several partners in our community, we were able to collect items for our Thanksgiving meal distribution. Additionally, we had such a generous response through the "Sponsor a Family for Thanksgiving" collection at our thrift stores that we were able to provide **105 Thanksgiving meals**, which is double the amount provided last year! We were also blessed to receive canned and dry goods from several major drives hosted by community partners. We would like to give a special shout out to the students at St. Xavier and Notre Dame, our friends at St. Elizabeth Physicians and those that participated in the "Cram the Cruiser" event in partnership with the Cold Spring Police Department. Through their combined efforts, **26,000 pounds of food were collected** to help us continue to meet the increasing need of providing food for our hungry neighbors right here in our community!



Coat Drive and Distribution

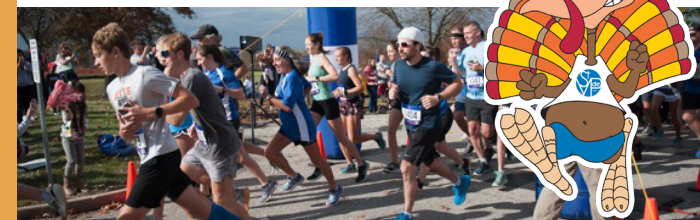


The 2022 St. Vincent de Paul coat drive was a tremendous success with over **1,700 coats distributed to nearly 500 households** within Northern Kentucky! Additionally, as part of the distribution, it is gratifying

to know that over **700 children** received winter coats to provide much needed warmth for the winter weather! To help us meet this need, we were blessed to receive a generous donation from VonLehman and The Scripps Howard Fund, which allowed us to purchase many new coats for our neighbors seeking a warm winter coat. **It is heartwarming to know that so many in need have the comfort of a warm winter coat due to the generosity of our community, and many hard-working volunteers and SVDP employees.**

Turkeyfoot Trot

The 15th Annual Turkeyfoot Trot 5k took place on November 5 at Thomas More University and was another successful event - more than **450 runners and walkers** were in attendance, raising **\$38,000**. Proceeds were distributed to the Conferences that participated which helped to provide assistance in their communities during the holidays. Thank you to everyone who participated and a special thanks to our presenting sponsors Payroll Partners, DBL Law, Stock Yards Bank and Bluegrass Aerie 694, Fraternal Order of Eagles.



SAVE THE DATE!

Please join us for a **100th year celebration at Blessed Sacrament Church on Saturday, March 18**. Festivities begin with a Centennial mass at 4 p.m., celebrated by Bishop Iffert, followed by a birthday bash in the undercroft. More details to follow.

The Birthday Bash Bourbon raffle will take place February - March. If you would like to donate bourbon, please contact Lou Settle at lou.settle@svdpnky.org or 859-446-7727. The winning raffle tickets will be pulled at the Centennial Celebration on March 18.

The annual Feast Day Mass and celebration is scheduled for **Saturday, September 23 at the Cathedral Basilica at 10 a.m.**



Vincent's Angels

Vincent's Angels is a supplemental Christmas Program that we provide to neighbors who are unable to be "adopted" by a family or company due to capacity. On December 21, we hosted our largest toy distribution at the Sterling Event Center at St. Barbara Church serving over **570 children with nearly 3,000 toys**. There were several parents that signed up at the last minute but thanks to Be Concerned that dropped off toys, we were able to provide all parents with gifts for their children. Due to the generous donations from the community and the help of dedicated volunteers, we were able to alleviate stress for many deserving families and provide them with a memorable Christmas morning.

THE 4 P'S HELP A NEIGHBOR IN NEED

There is no such thing as a routine case. Each person needing assistance has their own story to tell. It takes **patience, perseverance, partnership and prayer** to uncover the best possible assistance available. That path to help is not always clear but the Holy Spirit invariably lights the way.

The week of Thanksgiving, Fr. John at St. Barbara encountered Jim in the parking lot, who was in need of gas for his car. Fr. John recognized that Jim's need ran deeper than a tank of gas and reached out to a Vincentian at St. Barbara to help.

After spending some time with Jim, our Vincentian team learned that he was an elderly man recovering from a stroke and heart attack a few years ago. Jim was also homeless, having recently spent a week in his storage unit after being evicted from his home. Given his age and health condition, it was dangerous for him to remain without shelter. **Our Vincentian team enrolled Jim into our Homeless Assistance Program, providing three nights in a hotel and food.** That hotel stay was extended five more nights, thanks to the St. Barbara conference and two donated nights

by our hotel partner. This extended stay kept Jim safe and gave our Vincentian team time to determine next steps.

In that short week, our Vincentian team tried to contact his estranged family, shared a Thanksgiving meal with Jim at Cracker Barrel and finally helped him get to The Heart House, an extended stay homeless shelter in Dearborn County, IN. Jim's journey is not over though. This team of dedicated Vincentians continues to work with him, helping with applications for affordable housing and uncovering other available resources to help Jim reach self-sufficiency, despite his circumstances. They also continue to send prayers and encouragement to him at the Heart House via email so that he is consistently reminded he is not forgotten.

These Vincentians never gave up hope for Jim, even in the face of his complex needs. They truly turned to the 4 P's of patience, perseverance, partnership and prayer. He was and is not alone, and it turns out that neither were our Vincentians!

EASTERN KENTUCKY FLOOD RELIEF



In July, Eastern Kentucky was hit hard by flooding. When disaster strikes, and things are at their bleakest, I am reminded of the quote from Fred Rogers: "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'" Luckily, there are a lot of helpers in the Society with a heart for service. Many Vincentians answered the call to help through financial support and volunteering in the clean-up and rebuilding efforts.

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' - Fred Rogers

In late October, Vincentians Pete Stark, Gene Mayberry, Jim "Obie" Obert, and Council employees Amy Smith and Robbie Gullett partnered with CAP (Christian Appalachian Project) in Martin, KY. We were warmly welcomed at CAP's Foley Center. CAP provided wonderful accommodations, delicious home cooked meals and fellowship.

James, our CAP crew leader, and Avery, a long-term AmeriCorps volunteer, worked with us at Samantha's home. Samantha, a mother of three, had flood waters 3 ft deep in her home. **We hung cabinets and doors, built door frames, painted, and temporarily repaired the roof that will be replaced in the Spring.** Sam shared stories and pictures of how the flood impacted her family. The relief on her face when we arrived each day said she was not in this alone. We may not live next door, but we were neighbors helping neighbors.

Moving forward, Pete Stark is coordinating the ongoing relief efforts in Eastern Kentucky. Pete has also generously offered to donate his time and expertise in Emergency Management by leading the Disaster Operations Committee within our SVDP Northern Kentucky Council. We will be creating a plan to respond should a disaster strike in our own backyard. **If you would like to donate your time in Eastern KY or if you would like to be a part of our Disaster Operations Committee, please contact Pete at robertgstark55@gmail.com.**

ST. JOSEPH CAMP SPRINGS CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHT

In the Fall of 2021, Fr. Ryan Stenger approached St. Vincent de Paul to begin the process of establishing a new Conference at St. Joseph in Camp Springs, KY to engage members of the parish and to assist neighbors in need in their area.

In May of 2022, we hosted an Invitation to Serve at St. Joseph Parish. Karen Zengel introduced the parishioners to St. Vincent de Paul and our works by giving a talk at each Mass and inviting members of the parish to attend an Information Night to learn more about the work and mission.

At the information night, Casey Guilfoyle, Dennis Coyne and Sister Judith Niewahner met with members of the parish who were interested in being part of St. Vincent de Paul. They talked about the mission, growth in holiness, service and home visits to meet the needs of their neighbors.

After a few months of meeting and prayerful discernment, in September of 2022, several members of St. Joseph Parish agreed to accept Conference Officers roles: Tim McGrath, Conference President; Steven Fay, Conference Vice President; Don Heeb, Conference Treasurer; Megan Heeb, Conference Spiritual Advisor; Regina Murphy, Conference Secretary. Other members are Pat Schwegmann, Ann Fay, and Wanda Sendelbach. **We are pleased to announce that in November, St. Joseph Parish, Camp Springs, KY became an official part of St. Vincent de Paul!** We are grateful to our new friends in service for answering the call to grow together in holiness through service to, and personal relationships with those in need.

Welcome to our St. Joseph Camp Springs Vincentians!



REMEMBERING & HONORING

Donations received June 2022 through November 2022

IN HONOR

Deacon Jim Bayne
Danielle Bonkowski
Shawn Bode's 60th Birthday
Marc & Sue Neltner
Judie Eten
George & Judy Eten
Geni Fryman
Sue Dinkelaker

Mary Gray's birthday
Mark & Susie Gripshover
Paul & Sandy Kremer
Rev. Albert Ruschman
Bernie Macke
Dolores Macke
Peter & Teresa Mancyk's 37th Wedding Anniversary
Anthony & Beth Mastriani

Sr. Pat Murphy
Sr. Kathleen Terlau
Joe and Joyce Pi
Kevin McChord
Martha & Frances Schindler
Timothy Cannon
Tom Tiernan
Mark Tiernan

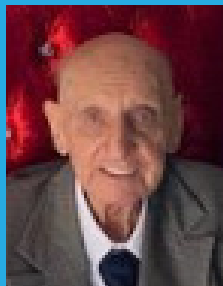
IN MEMORY

Jeff & Michelle Abramis
Ted & Jeri Abramis
Robert Bacon
Rose Bacon
Mary Baker
Roger Schwartz
Stanley Bond
Jim & Mary Lazzari
Janet Brown
Kathleen Konerman
May Bruggeman & Frances Corgan
Michael Widdis
Joyce Ann Conway
Mike Conway
Maribeth Corken
Betty Corken
Don Forman
Dave & Sandy VonHandorf
Donald F. Glockner
Cathy Jones
Gene Guilfoyle
Janice Wurtz
Shirley Hoffmann
Robert Hoffmann
Sister M. Karen CDP
George & Judy Eten

George J. Kennedy, Jr.
Martin & Mary Beth Barnett
Joan Brennan Kennedy
Michele Redden-Borowski
Margie Kennedy
Janice Wurtz
George Kidney
Wilma Baird
Carol Bates
Marilyn Woeste
Mary Lemker
Stephen & Jamie Schroeder
Patricia McGrath
Ben McGrath
Julie Meyer
Bruce & Debra Raines
Maureen Meyers
Sandy Baxter
Ralph & Marianne Carr
Jean Durkin
Terri Durkin
Kathleen Gessner
Emily Goebel
Jack & Ann Hicks
Ronald & Alice Lubbe
Mike & Rae Maier
Robert Moeller
Joan Neuhaus

Cindy Ripberger
John Ripberger
Martha Staub Ringo
Don & Lynne Able
Sarah Andrews
Jo Anne Baldwin
Kirk & Connie Dupont
Evans Funeral Home
Doug & Linda Fussinger
Carl & Maureen Grady Gerrein
Fred Rolfes
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Sandfoss
Tom & Sherryl Snow
Bob & Diane Wilson
Will Ritter
Ellie Ritter
Blake Sauer
Holly Sauer
Mr. & Mrs. Schulte
Kathleen Rottman
Dr. Timothy Smith
Barbara Baker
Kim & Kelly Greene
Joyce Stockman
Darlene Bossert
Pamela Taylor
Bill & Diane Davis

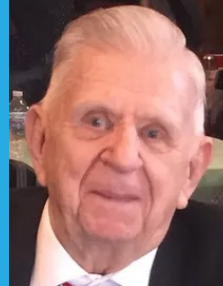
We remember and honor these Vincentians that have recently passed away.
May their souls rest in heavenly peace.



Clarence Huhn
St. Therese
SVdP Conference



Don Forman
St. Timothy
SVdP Conference



Nick Cleves
Divine Mercy
SVdP Conference



Peggy Sue Marquadt
St. Timothy
SVdP Conference



Stanley Bond
St. Paul
SVdP Conference

We sincerely apologize for any omissions or spelling errors.

**Thank you to all who chose to honor and remember friends,
family and loved ones by gifts to St. Vincent de Paul.**

VICTORIA SQUARE

Over the summer, residents of Victoria Square in Newport were notified that they would need to leave their homes due to the sale of the property to a developer. This news was devastating, especially considering the limited options for affordable housing. However, the community response and partnership that quickly followed is a testament of the care and compassion that lives in Northern Kentucky.

NAACP of Northern Kentucky organized an initial response by hosting a community forum to allow the residents to share their anticipated challenges with a panel of safety net partners, including St. Vincent de Paul. Listening to this feedback, this group came together to devise a collaborative plan to help residents as they mapped out their next steps. Advocacy on behalf of the residents with the developer resulted in more time to find a new home than initially communicated. This advocacy coupled with a swift assessment of resources across multiple partners has provided a network of support for these neighbors during this difficult time.

St. Vincent de Paul has been privileged to be part of this effort. To start, we cross referenced a very long list of over 500 property owners and landlords with Brighton Center and NKCAC so that we could provide Victoria Square residents with options for

their future homes. From there, we worked very closely with our non-profit family to devise a direct referral process based on available funding sources to help displaced residents navigate the resources as efficiently as possible. These neighbors were already under a lot of stress and we did not want them to feel bounced from agency to agency to cobble together the resources needed to move. **As part of this direct referral process, St. Vincent de Paul committed \$10,000 in flexible funding, offering to cover any gaps that emerged for residents in their relocation.** Finally, we also made sure that our partners and Victoria Square residents knew that St. Vincent de Paul could be a resource for furniture, housewares, and beds if those needs emerged as they settled into their new homes. Our Out of Area Conference has been instrumental in making this process come to life within our ministry.

While we've made progress, there are still 75 people left to find homes as of December 15, with a move-out date scheduled for January 31. Bi-weekly resource meetings, featuring the safety net partners, continue to be held to aid the remaining residents in their search and in their moving plans. While the situation has been challenging, the commitment to work together in the best interest of those in need has been evident. **We are always "better together!"**

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: KENTUCKY COLONELS



The title *Kentucky Colonel* dates back to around 1813. While early Colonels actually served military roles, the position took on a more ceremonial function in the late 1800s. Colonels in uniform attended functions at the Kentucky Governor's mansion and as symbolic guards at state events and the like. Kentucky Colonels also began to take residency in other states.

The years following the war saw the charitable side of the Kentucky Colonels grow rapidly. From starting a medical scholarship for physicians to practice in rural Kentucky to funding Kentucky's first cancer center, the Kentucky Colonels have been a long-established charitable arm distributing over 7,000 grants to charitable and educational agencies across Kentucky. For the last dozen years, the Kentucky Colonels' Board of Trustees has distributed approximately \$2 million each year, impacting the lives of more than 3.9 million people in and around Kentucky. There are Kentucky Colonels living in every state in the nation, as well as Colonels living in 49 nations abroad (www.kycolonels.org/history/).

It wasn't until the disastrous Great Flood of 1937 that the Order began a more charitable role collecting \$5 from every member to aid those impacted by the flood. In California, Colonels such as Fred Astaire held benefits to raise money for Kentucky. Recovery from the flood was still on going as the war in Europe broke out. As WWII loomed at the change of the decade, the "great non-political brotherhood" was again mobilized. As the country prepared for war, funds donated by honorary "Kentuckians" were used to set up recreation rooms for soldiers in training at Fort Knox.

The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels has funded St. Vincent de Paul NKY for over a decade including a dozen grants from the Good Works Program to fund beds, the food pantry, and the purchase of a passenger van. Half of the overall funding was awarded for the Sweet Dreams Bed Program that provides beds to youth, the elderly, and those with disabilities. **These gifts provided over 250 of our neighbors in need with a bed to sleep in. We are grateful for the continued support of the Kentucky Colonels and over 30,000 active members all over the world whose generous contributions help Kentuckians.**



**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
COUNCIL OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY**
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www.svdpnky.org

For name or address changes or if you would like to receive
the NewsFlash please contact Brittany Czirr at brittany.czirr@svdpnky.org



VOLUNTEER

**THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS
TO VOLUNTEER WITH US!**

- Serving in our food pantry
- Answering calls to our assistance line
- Sorting clothes or other material donations
- Delivering food to the homeless staying in hotels
- Help to plan a fundraising event

Contact our volunteer coordinator, Mark Bradley,
at mark.bradley@svdpnky.org or 859-426-2649 to
talk about opportunities that may interest you.

