



General Meeting: June 28, 2024

Quote: St. Vincent de Paul (his life’s inspiration) :**“It is not sufficient for me to love God if I do not love my neighbor. I belong to God and to the poor.”**

1:00 PM The afternoon will begin with our barbecue
We thank ALL those who donated food, water, etc. to helping make this a fun and special meeting.
As always, we appreciate the constant efforts of Annette Averna and Mary Jo Phillips as they continue to coordinate our luncheons throughout the year.

*******Please** remember to check our website during the summer months:
<https://www.svdpstluke.org>. Kathy Minton continually posts all important information.

Meeting will begin at 1:45

Overview of the nomination process for president: Kathy Minton and Frank Vaccarino

- Please send the name of the individual you are nominating for President of SVdP Conference at the Parish of ST. Luke to either: Frank Vaccarino (fvaccarino@gmail.com) or Kathy Minton (kcminton15@gmail.com). Deadline for completing nominee forms is July 30th.

Spiritual advisor: Debbie Weingroff: our reflection

Afternoon of prayer: Father Al presiding (thank you)

We will **not** have a general meeting in July; our next general meeting will be on **August 23rd**; at which time we will hold the election for our conference president who will serve for the next three years.

Updates for each ministry

Community Comfort and Fellowship Dinner: Marie Alfano (nrsip@aol.com)

- June 27th the volunteer members had a barbecue for the guests who attended the dinner. As always, the dinner was a big success, and the volunteers *always* do a great deal of preparation for each monthly dinner, and do all that is feasible, to serve the healthiest meals-lots of fruit and vegetables!! The dinners will continue through the summer months. If you would enjoy volunteering for this ministry of feeding those less fortunate and those who are looking for Community Fellowship, please email Marie.

Food Pantry: Mary Schwarz(mschwarz23@comcast.net)

- The number of guests served to date for 2024 (January - May: the Food Pantry has serviced 2,164 adults and 1,154 children. This makes a combined total of 3,318 individuals: a total of 798 families.
- We have surpassed our numbers from 2023, and we anticipate this will continue, and we will exceed last year's total of 7,607 individuals who needed our help within our community.
- **Substitutes for the Food Pantry:** Please email Frank Kelly(fjkellyeire@me.com) if you can not take your shift at the **desk** or the **pantry and...**
 - 1) We are in **need** of substitutes for both the desk and pantry. Please contact Frank if you are able to be on the substitute list.

Fundraising: Barbara Neary (hellonwheels67@aol.com)

- Save the date of October 11th for Family Fun Night. SVdP is presenting a magic show and ventriloquist to entertain children of all ages. Tickets are \$15.00 per person in advance and \$20.00 at the door. Tickets for \$15.00 each will be available at our August and September meetings and before and after masses in September. Bring the grandkids for a great show!!
- We shall once again participate in Boscovs Friends Helping Friends fundraiser. It's a great way to support SVdP and do some early Christmas shopping. Information to follow.
- **Pavers:** Charlie Rott (crott2668@verizon.net)
Any questions regarding a future purchase of a paver for the Celebration Garden please email Charlie

Furniture Ministry: Pat and Paul Capelli (pcapelli56@gmail.com)

- Since our last meeting Pat and Paul have continued to make the necessary connections to have furniture delivered to our guests. Beds and other pieces of furniture are now in the homes of those who needed to make a house of home.
- Pat and Paul have also been requested by Vincent's Legacy to help with adjacent communities that did not have home assessors.
- If you are interested in volunteering in this ministry, please email the Paul and Pat.

Helping Hands: Christine Cotgrave (BlueDevil1191@live.com)and Genevieve Yachnik (yach5@comcast.net)

- From May 3rd through May 31st 2024, Helping Hands serviced: 120 families consisting of 237 adults and 153 children with a total of 1,521 items. This amount has an in-kind value of \$9,183.00
- These numbers include 250 items with an in-kind value of \$1,250.00 to Destiny's Bridge
- From June 7th through June 21st, 2024 Helping Hands serviced: 72 families consisting of 171 adults and 97 children with 1,095 items with an in-kind value of \$5, 837.00. These numbers include 175 items with an in-kind value of \$875.00 to Destiny's Bridge.

Home visits and Intake: Joe Damato (ajax50@aol.com) and Michelle Jones (mmj8588@verizon.net)

- Our intake volunteers are the first SVdP members that an individual speaks with when they call our hot line for help. Those initial minutes are so very important, and all of our intake volunteers continue doing a most remarkable job with offering resources to the guests that call, and if there is a concern or volunteers immediately contact Michelle, Joe or Gemma.
- At this time they have sufficient volunteers for this important aspect of our ministry

Membership: Linda Panaccione (lin.panaccione@gmail.com) currently we have **111 members** and **11 future members** pending as they complete the paperwork and fingerprints: YEAH US☺

Secretary: Jill Bradley jillabradley@aol.com

- Jill is keeping extremely accurate minutes of all meetings (copies kept on file)
Jill has also created a document that lists all ministries and the members volunteering within each ministry.

Sunshine Club: Karen Rott (karenrott@verizon.net)

- Karen sends mass cards and sympathy cards to family members if a member passes away and greeting cards to our members who are ill and need a bit of cheering up

Technology: Kathy Minton (kcminton15@gmail.com)

- Home visitor packet revised and updated. Checklist, consent form, question/information pages, Board Determination, Balance Sheet, Monthly Budget Planning Form.
- IRS W-9 letter to landlord and IRS W-9 form also available as needed
- New folders available in the Conference Room or under Home Visitor section of FORMS PAGE (under more): <https://www.svdpstluke.org/forms>
- Time sheets have been updated now include the full complement of ministries-available on website on FORMS Page: <https://www.svdpstluke.org/forms>
- Online store is still available. If anyone would like to add additional items to the store or need help ordering, please let Kathy Minton know. Available on the website: <https://www.svdpstluke.org/events> OR https://stores.farrosteees.com/st_depaul_society/shop/home

Thank you notes from guests who we have helped on the tri-fold board with our conference pictures for our events

- Many past guests keep in touch with us expressing their gratitude letting us know how life is positively moving forward for them and their families.

Time Sheets: Sue De Bella (sdebella814@gmail.com)

- Sue has volunteered to complete the data from our time sheets. You may always hand in your time sheet at the food pantry or you may email your hours by filing out the time sheet on line found on our website

Toy Collections for Christmas

- Our coordinator, Sue DeMillio, will give an overview for Christmas 2024 at the August general meeting. If you have new or slightly used children's toys, please hold on to them until early this fall.

Treasurer: Sharon Bianchi (jbianchi7@comcast.net)

- Balance is \$32,491.15
- During this week we have had some large expenses that have not been deducted from this amount. However, fundraising will continue in the fall with two main projects.

Vegetable Garden: Meg Otchy (megotchy2@gmail.com)

- The garden has harvested another 50 pounds of vegetables, this does not include the 100 bulbs of garlic which are drying in Meg's garage.
- The gardeners have planted a second batch of snap peas, and the corn is coming up very quickly!! We should have cantaloupe by the end of July. If you would enjoy helping at the garden, please email Meg

Conference Twinning:

Yamba Uganda: our conference still twins with Yamba Uganda in Africa. We recent received a thank you note form Mary Goss expressing her gratitude to our conference, plus we have received a thank you letter from Father Vincent. The thank you letters can be found on our Tri-fold boards that are on display today in the hallway outside the parish center.

I have been invited to be on the Board for The Housing and Homeless Coalition for the County. I am grateful for this opportunity; I believe it will help our conference stay connected to the needs of the county, and how we can continue to help in the most meaningful manner.

Please purchase a ticket for the raffle for the Housing Coalition \$5.00 (call Gemma if you want to buy a ticket – or two). Tickets are being sold before and after all masses this coming weekend.

Tuckerton Seaport: If you are interested in having a day at the Seaport please contact Barbara Neary to sign up. The day is \$20.00 for two guided tours; one being the pontoon boat ride. We need all final reservations by July 9th. This is not a fundraiser, just a day to be together.

Many of us are like the honeybee. We do not realize our importance in life's great plan until someday, somehow it is revealed to us. We go about our day, not often feeling like our lives are particularly inspirational or important, however, God has infused a great purpose to our existence. All creation is interdependent, like the members of the honeybee hive, and what happens to one, affects the other. Our day-to-day acts of kindness, sincerity and virtue matter very much, as does every flower visited by a bee. Each bee matters and each of us matters and every day we are encouraged to keep busy doing good and not underestimate its importance.

A little giggle for the day:

“I know how my life will end: one of my children will unplug my life support to charge their phone.”



Blessings always,

Gemma

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