

## Sacred Heart of Jesus Conference

# Society of St. Vincent de Paul



June 2016

## *Who We Are and How We Serve*

**We live in a time** of abundant resources and expanding opportunities – for some. While we as a society debate and deliberate policies about how such resources and opportunities are to be used and allocated, there are many of us for whom debate is a luxury and deliberation too long. For many families and individuals, life's most basic needs such as safe housing, adequate food, transportation, and medical care are urgent needs that cannot wait. St. Vincent de Paul, centuries ago, called upon us to bear witness to God's love for all of humanity through embracing justice and service to others. He called us to practice true charity and love with humility for our fellow human beings. It was St. Vincent de Paul's call that moved Frédéric Ozanam and friends in 1833 to live out their Catholic faith and serve the poor and most afflicted in Paris, France. Their efforts began a movement and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded. Since that founding, thousands of many faiths, creeds, cultures, and backgrounds have become Vincentians, forming local conferences across the globe, each sharing the mission of serving those in greatest need. The Vincentians of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Conference in Superior share in the call of St. Vincent de Paul and seek to carry on the legacy of Blessed Frédéric Ozanam.



**Blessed Frédéric Ozanam**

For a good number of years, the Superior conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul had a store that many in the community may remember. Fifteen years ago, the Superior conference refocused its efforts to engage person-to-person with community members in need through home visits. Vincentians from among a number of Superior Catholic parishes worked to re-establish the presence of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the Twin Ports area. Today, the Superior conference, housed in the Catholic Charities building, includes members from across the

community who serve those in need in the area. The Superior conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul exists to provide community members assistance to meet their immediate needs. The assistance might be a bus pass, gas, food, clothing, or safe shelter. Those who call upon the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are often in dire circumstances. They are often unaware of resources available to them. For many, navigating the myriad of offices and agencies to address their needs is overwhelming. Whatever their circumstances, as Vincentians, our efforts are to meet the immediate need with the resources we have, as well as provide information about and contacts for agencies that offer long-term, sustainable support. The material and monetary resources we are able to provide are all donated.

The Vincentians of the Superior conference understand that listening to someone's story, acknowledging their humanity and dignity, and welcoming them with concern and care are equally important to meeting material needs. As Vincentians, we draw upon the teachings of St. Vincent de Paul to guide our efforts, being mindful that in serving others, we serve God's purpose. As Vincentians, we are guided to hear and respond with respect and confidentiality, and to discern without judgment. We offer compassion and seek to be Christ present to those in need as we see the face of Christ in them. We are not all health professionals or social workers, yet we educate ourselves to be well informed about the challenges those in need experience and about the resources available that can address their needs in sustainable ways.

We know from experience that the work of the Superior conference is deeply felt and appreciated. For Vincentians, whether we meet with community members in need, sort clothes and shelve food, or organize events, it is living and deepening our faith and the friendships we form in faith that inspires us. We are hastened by St. Vincent de Paul's call to love and support one another, to strive for peace and union together with simplicity, humility, and fidelity.

## *Serving as a Superior Vincentian*

# THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

To the many Donors who helped us provide a delicious Pancake Breakfast with door prizes, music and silent auction on April 10

- |                      |                       |                     |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Applebees            | Arby's                | Barker's Island     |
| Big Apple Bakery     | Big Lake Graphics     | Breakwater          |
| Burger King          | City's 58th St. Diner | Culver's            |
| Curves               | Dunkin Donuts         | Erberts & Gerberts  |
| Five-Star Automotive | Great Clips           | Grizzly's           |
| Hair Tactics         | Julie's Restaurant    | Keyport Liquor      |
| Kwik Cuts            | Kwik Trip             | Nemadji Golf        |
| Northwest Outlet     | Nummi Jewelers        | Papa Murphy's       |
| Perkins              | Pizza Man             | Red Mug             |
| Shamrock             | Shorty's              | Smooch n Pooch      |
| Spirit Room          | Stained Glassery      | Super One           |
| Taco John's          | Upper Deck            | Video Vision        |
| VIP                  | Walmart               | Wide World of Wings |
|                      |                       | Wentworth Gardens   |



**Thank You** to Liz Gaynor, Denise Herald, Sandy Gunski, Carlene Kavajecz and Becky Stuart for providing items for the silent auction.

**Thank You** to Ed & Char Laureys and Ken Raihala, Sam Dotterwick and Jan O'Malley for providing great music to enhance our celebration.

## Pope Francis calls us to Serve

"It is my burning desire that, during this Jubilee, the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty. And let us enter more deeply into the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God's mercy."

## Our Service to those in Need

October 1, 2015 — February 29, 2016

Housing	\$ 24,957
Transportation	\$ 6,303
Utilities	\$ 3,131
Medical	\$ 110
Other	\$ 1,044
<b>Total Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 35,545</b>
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,628
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 37,173</b>

(95 cents out of every dollar donated goes directly to those in need as we have no building or staff costs.)

## We Are Friends of the Poor

Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
1416 Cumming Ave.  
Superior, WI 54880



**715-398-4039**

(voice mail)



Visit our Website:

[svdpsuperior.org](http://svdpsuperior.org)

If you have a need or know of anyone in need of our assistance please call **715-398-4039** and leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

### Meetings

Meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Catholic Charities building at 1416 Cumming Ave.

### Membership

**Active Members:** Attend meetings and visit with those in need in their homes or at our office.

**Associate Members:** Assist with special projects.

**Contributing Members:** Provide regular or annual donations in support of the Society.

### SVDP Officers

President: Anita Johnson  
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Leon Flaherty  
Vice President: Lynn Tracy  
VP of Membership: Pam Dawson  
VP of Technology: Tim Houglum  
Treasurer: Eric Stuart  
Secretary: Becky Stuart

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Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Conference.**

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