

DOING GOOD!!

An E-Publication of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Diocese of Cleveland



DOING GOOD!!

is sent monthly.

To join our Doing Good mailing list, view past issues, or to learn more about SVDP, visit us at svdpcle.org.

Correspond with us via email at doing-good@svdpcle.org.

Please share this issue with your fellow Conference members who may not have email.

To unsubscribe, simply reply to the email from which you received this newsletter with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.



Give Hope

Donate a car
Give hope to those in need

Donate old vehicles to SVDP by calling 1-800-322-8284 or by visiting the webpage: [Click here](#)

Join Us for OUTRUN HUNGER 5K Walk/Run June 24th By Laura Straub

Dust off those sneakers and come down to scenic Edgewater Park in Cleveland on Saturday, June 24 to participate in **OUTRUN HUNGER 5K Walk/Run** for our hunger centers. Whether you're a serious runner or simply prefer a leisurely stroll alongside beautiful Lake Erie, we're looking to fellow Vincentians like you to join us. The walk (which is not timed) and run kick off at 9AM (registration starts at 7:45). Registration costs \$20 (advance) and \$25 (race day). The first 300 pre-registered participants will receive a high quality "Tec" shirt (size not guaranteed, subject to availability after first 300).



[Click here to register online.](#) To download and print a paper application, [click here.](#)



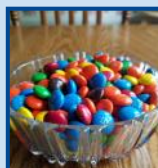
Director's Corner

John Litten, Executive Director

A Lot to Live Up To

For fear that our president Bob Reuter might edit himself out of my article related to the 2017 Recognition Breakfast, I wanted to devote this month's column to Bob and his service. I'll start by doing what Bob has trained us to do so well, and that is to promote all that is going on in our Society in the coming months. Thus, I urge you to join us on Saturday, June 24th for the Outrun Hunger 5K and Walk, which will take place at Edgewater Park in Cleveland. You can visit hermescleveland.com for more information and to register. If the links are more to your liking, you might also consider our 2nd Annual Outdrive Hunger Golf Outing on Friday, July 21st at Sleepy Hollow. Learn more and register via svdpcle.org.

After several years as Director at Camp Christopher, God's providence led me to find the opening at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul for an Executive Director in 2011. It was around then that I sat with Bob Reuter and Larry Lauter at Bob's kitchen table for my first interview. I would become our next E.D., and at the time, I was our only full-time employee. For the next 5+ years from there, with over 1200 Vincentians, 10 staff and millions of people helped, I have had countless meetings at that table, always with a bowl of M&M's, and always with new challenges to make St. Vincent de Paul and myself better.



Bob Reuter has translated a combination of 57 years as a Vincentian, and even more years as a successful business owner, chemical engineer, philanthropist, husband, father and friend into what I look at as the pinnacle of his service as our president. While he stands at the top of a mountain of service, I know Bob would tell you that he is still at base camp, with lots of climbing yet to do. I think it is that humble tenacity that makes Bob who he is, and it is something I have tried very hard to emulate. I am convinced that that kitchen table is changing the world, and that it will continue to do so in numerous ways.

So thank you Bob for your service. Indeed this newsletter itself, which you started from nothing in 2011, is a testament to that. How fortuitous...

So thank you Bob for your service. Indeed this newsletter itself, which you started from nothing in 2011, is a testament to that. How fortuitous...



"Saying Goodbye"

At this time of year, many schools have concluded the academic year and graduates are preparing to enter the next phase of their lives. My parish school just had their Eighth Grade graduation and it is exciting to hear of their future plans, but also sad to say goodbye to students who have spent upwards of eight or nine years here. It can be hard to say goodbye and most of us struggle with it as it represents a change for which some of us may not be prepared.

As Vincentians, there may be times when we too will say goodbye - whether we are moving on to something else or when we say goodbye to clients whom we have served for many years or even when we have lost a loved one. Yet goodbye can mean that something good is happening whether someone is moving on to a new adventure or to new life with Christ. Goodbye is a part of life for which it is inevitable. Yet just as Jesus promised the disciples that He would never leave them, so too, the memories of those whom we will miss will remain with us also. Enjoy the summer!

Yours in Christ,



Father Doug Brown
Spiritual Advisor

EVER LISTENED TO A WEBINAR?

There is a new book titled, *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World* that attacks poverty holistically, empowering individuals to build their own personal plans for economic security. It is currently being used by SVDP Conferences and Councils of all sizes across the country. The book will be discussed in a webinar open to all Vincentians. If you've never listened to a webinar before, join this free learning opportunity by registering at **Register Today!** Try to have all your Conference members join in and learn.

The webinar is divided into two parts. Part I: Tuesday, June 13 @ 6:30pm-9:30pm Part II: Tuesday, June 20 @ 6:30pm - 9:30pm. If you really like what you hear your Conference can purchase the book at Amazon.com for \$29.00.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
Monday, June 12, Noon
Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

MIDEAST REGIONAL MEETING

June 16-17 Notre Dame, IN

5K RACE TO "OUTRUN HUNGER"

Saturday, June 24, 9:00am
Edgewater Park
Benefits SVDP Hunger Centers
Get a group of friends to join with you!

GOLF OUTING

Friday, July 21, 8:00am-4:00pm
Sleepy Hollow Golf Course
Brecksville

INVITATION FOR RENEWAL

August 9-13 & December 6-10
Florissant, MO

SVDP NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

August 30-September 2
Tampa Marriott Waterside
Hotel & Marina
Tampa, FL
For all Vincentians

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
Monday, September 11, Noon
Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK

Saturday, September 30
Sites TBA

RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

September/October

BLANKET SUNDAY

Saturday/Sunday, October 7 & 8

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
Monday, December 11, Noon
Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford



“He who has compassion on the poor, LENDS to the Lord, and He will repay him for his good deed.” Proverbs 19:17



SVDP DISTRICT MEETING	DATE & TIME	PLACE	SPEAKER	DISTRICT PRESIDENT
Akron District	July 16th 8:00 am Mass	Prince of Peace Barberton	TBA	Mike Zorena akron@svdpdle.org
East District	TBA	TBA	TBA	John Patton eastdistrict@svdpdle.org
Lake/Geauga	June 6th 7:00pm	Our Lady of Mt Carmel Wickliffe	Senta Klein from Families of Promise - Catholic Charities	Marilyne Brandoni lake-geauga@svdpdle.org
Lorain County	August 10 7:00pm	TBA	TBA	Jim Watling loraindistrict@svdpdle.org
West District	June 6th 7:00 pm	St. Ladislav	TBA	Jim Beesley westdistrict@svdpdle.org

ODDS AND ENDS —Want to attend our Mideast Regional meeting at Notre Dame University Friday & Saturday, June 16 & 17. Stay in dorm room \$50/night. Central Office will repay your \$30 Registration fee. Need to register this week. Call Anelize for details.
Vincentian Group Tour to Rome in October to celebrate 400th Anniversary of St. Vincent de Paul. Meeting and Mass with Pope Frances. More details were in May DOING GOOD. For Tour details email info@learningjourneys.com and ask for details on Vincentians Rome trip.

Next Quarterly Board Meeting Monday June 12th at noon, Our Lady of Hope school basement, 300 Center Rd, Bedford. All Vincentians welcome.

POVERTY IN OHIO

By Bob Reuter

The 2017 Ohio Poverty Report was released in February. You can see the whole report by Googling “**Ohio Poverty Report from Ohio Development Services**”. The report defines poor as individuals and families with incomes at or below 100% of the Federal poverty tables. Approximately 15% of Ohioans are poor.

- ◆ Medina County has one of the lowest poverty levels in Ohio.
- ◆ 16% of people in urban places were poor.
- ◆ 28% of those living in the central location of metropolitan areas were poor.
- ◆ Married couples with a full-time/year-round worker had poverty rates under 5%.
- ◆ Married couples without a full-time/year-round worker had poverty rates over 30%.
- ◆ Households headed by a single female with children had 43% poverty rates.
- ◆ 21% of poor families received cash public assistance. However, such payments seldom boost families out of poverty.
- ◆ 4% of adults with a bachelor’s degree were poor.
- ◆ 13% of those with just a high school diploma or GED were poor.
- ◆ 27% of those not graduating from high school were poor.
- ◆ Less than 8% of people 65 and older were poor, but 55% of them would be poor without social security.
- ◆ Women ages 18 to 34 years have much higher poverty rates than men of comparable age.

Over 160 Vincentians Attended 2017 Recognition Mass & Breakfast

Our Society reached another milestone in its growth in the Diocese of Cleveland, as over 160 of you joined us for mass and breakfast on Sunday, May 21st at Assumption Parish in Broadview Hts. We came together first for a liturgy, where everyone had the opportunity to be commissioned. This was especially important in 2017, as two new Conferences were present in St. Mary (Hudson) and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (Cleveland). Afterward, we dodged raindrops as we headed over to breakfast in the parish hall. There, we would honor seven Vincentians who have given selflessly over many years (over 100 total years of service in total!).

Honorees included **Fred Hammond** and **Karen Speerhas** from St. Ladislav Conference in Westlake. Both have been instrumental in the meal and pantry held at St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish. Additionally, **Terry Hollinger** and **Charlene Nichols** from St. Agnes in Orrville were honored, both of whom have worked diligently to serve the people of Orrville over many years, all while having families and other commitments to juggle. We also honored two who are no longer in service here on earth. **Chuck Pope** from St. Joseph Conference in Cuyahoga Falls was instrumental in bringing that Conference back to SVDP, and **Gloria Price** gave fully and selflessly to the St. John Paul II Ozanam Center in Cleveland’s Slavic Village neighborhood. She helped at the pantry while also helping to start a hot meal at Holy Name Parish.



Gloria Price & Chuck Pope

The final honoree was a surprise to the recipient, as our board president **Bob Reuter** was honored for his service. Bob is completing his six years as president in 2017 as the exclamation point on over 30 years of Vincentian service. Bob was the right leader at the right time for St. Vincent de Paul, and the growth of our Society was a hallmark of that time. His impact will be felt for many years to come!

Anyone interested in nominating a worthy Vincentian in 2018 should stay tuned for announcements early next year. We are also in search of a host for 2018 if your Conference/Parish is interested.

Please visit our facebook page for more pics (click here): [2017 Vincentians Commissioning Mass & Communion Breakfast](#)



Mackenzie, John, Barbara & Fred Hammond



Sarah Beardman & Charlene Nichols



Ed Treat, John Patton, Anelize Nader, John Litten, Natalie Schrimpf & Bob Reuter



Gloria Price's husband & daughters with Sue Carson



Chuck Pope's family: Jason & Kimberly Roth & Theresa Pope