

Good Morning, my name is Tim Lanari. I am a volunteer for the Holy Family Conference of St. Vincent de Paul which offers person to person service to those who are needy and suffering in both the Fond du Lac and North Fond du Lac areas.

Volunteers of St. Vincent de Paul seek to grow in three essential areas: Spirituality, Friendship & Service. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, Vincentians will be in the back of Church to assist. Also, more information can be found on the FDL St. Vincent de Paul website.

As a member of Holy Family Parish, you are often asked to support our conference. All generous parishioners should feel a sense of being a part of the mission of service to the poor. Our gratitude for your generous support this past year has been a blessing. We thank you deeply and sincerely from the bottom of our hearts. Without your assistance, we would be unable to help anyone.

We come asking for your support at a time of dire consequence. This past summer we have had an unprecedented demand for assistance of as high as 90 requests per week. Beginning in September, available funds had been depleted making us unable to assist our neighbors with their critical needs since then. This hurts us all.

We strive to bring the love and peace of Christ to those we serve in the spirit of the Gospel message, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me."

Here are a few neighbors that we have helped this past year:

A single man was in a car accident on his way to work. Due to the amount of time needed to recover from injuries, he lost his job and his car. After his recovery, he started working again and had to walk to and from work. When he called us, he was looking for help with rent and a voucher to buy a bike from the St. Vincent de Paul store. We pray with our neighbors at the end of our meeting. This man felt comfortable with saying the prayer himself and brought us all to tears with his thankfulness and gratitude of being alive, healthy, employed, and thankful for the assistance of the many who serve with St. Vincent de Paul.

We met with an elderly couple who owned their own business. They had worked hard and tried to make ends meet. When Covid hit, the man got sick and needed lifesaving emergency surgery. There were many roads to recovery and many bills to pay. They needed assistance with their property rental payment. We were inspired by their faith in God and their prayers of thanksgiving through all their struggles. Again, we cried tears of joy with them as they prayed for all that is good in life.

We assisted a young homeless mother of two, living in her car. She was working two jobs, making a car payment and struggling to save the required amount to secure an apartment.

Dear friends in Christ, the struggle is real, and many are in need. We ask you to take some time to be alone with Jesus and contemplate how you would like to help. We need your time, your talent, and your treasure. Each of us is called to consider what lies in our hearts and to ask ourselves....how am I able to serve the poor today? You will find our envelope in the pew for your convenience. You can use your own envelope and mark it as St. Vincent de Paul and the parish will be sure to get it to our organization.

Thank you.