



Frédéric's 5

Simplicity · Humility · Gentleness · Selflessness · Zeal

JANUARY 8, 2026



The Thread

Each of us has at times, in our own way, felt a quiet thread running through our lives. A steady pull of love that stretches from Jesus' simple command to love one another, to the personal encounters, phone calls, and conversations we share with our neighbors in need. Every time we sit at a kitchen table, listen to someone's story, or offer a word of hope, we are taking hold of that same thread and helping to weave it into the fabric of another person's life.

That thread has run through all of salvation history. It stretches from the first pages of Genesis, through the Gospels, into the letters of the early Church, and out across centuries into the visits, phone calls, and pantry lines of today. That thread is both simple and demanding; love one another as God has loved you. [Read more...](#)

THIS WEEK'S FEATURE: Formation

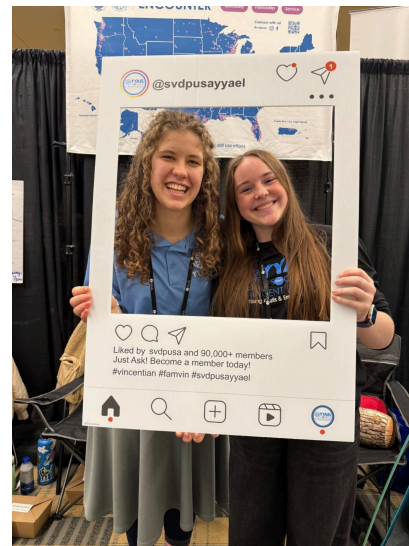
Formation is More than Reading (But Reading Helps!)

By Tim Williams, Senior Director of Formation and Leadership Development

We understand formation to be our [lifelong journey of becoming](#), and our Vincentian vocation to be the special pathway we have chosen for that journey. As Vincentians, we further our growth along the way, most importantly through our [person-to-person service of the poor](#), and equally importantly, our sharing with each other our own learning, insights, and growth. It is through this sharing that lives our Rule, journeying "[together towards holiness.](#)" [Read more...](#)



PHOTOS - SEEK 2026 CONFERENCE



The National Council is filled with gratitude as we conclude our time at SEEK 2026, the annual Catholic conference that brings together thousands of college students, young adults, and Church leaders from across the country.

SVdP National CEO Michael Acaldo traveled to Columbus, Ohio, alongside Linda Roghair, National Vice President of Youth, Young Adults & Emerging Leaders (YYAEL) and our YYAEL representatives to represent the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, connect with attendees, and share our mission of faith in action.

CONSIDER A CHARITABLE ANNUITY THIS NEW YEAR

As we start a new year, take advantage of a win/win opportunity – a Charitable Gift Annuity.

A Charitable Gift Annuity provides a steady income for life, a 2025 tax year charitable tax deduction, and a legacy ultimately benefiting the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's national office and/or a local Council.

Annual income is based on one's age (or on two lives if both are 55+.) These can be funded with cash, stocks, and even a one-time IRA qualified charitable donation ("QCD") of up to **\$55,000** if you are over 70 ½ years young (note: special provisions apply to a QCD-funded charitable gift annuity).

Rates vary depending on your age

| Single Person | | Two People | |
|---------------|------|------------|------|
| AGE | RATE | AGE | RATE |
| 60 | 5.2% | 60/60 | 4.7% |
| 65 | 5.7% | 65/65 | 5.0% |
| 70 | 6.3% | 70/70 | 5.5% |
| 75 | 7.0% | 75/75 | 6.2% |
| 80 | 8.1% | 80/80 | 6.9% |
| 85 | 9.1% | 85/85 | 8.1% |

*American Council on Gift Annuities (ACGA)
rates effective January 1, 2025

Explore more at: <https://ssvpusa.org/charitable-gift-annuities>
or contact Dennis Kempf at (314) 576-3993 ext.
222/dkempf@svdpusa.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, January 8 at 7:00pm CDT
[Zoom Replay with SVdP and SEEK26](#)

Thursday, January 15 at 7:00pm CDT
[Zoom Replay with SVdP and SEEK26](#)

Monday, January 26 at 12:00pm CDT
[Getting Ahead Practitioner Call](#)

Wednesday, January 28 at 5:30pm CDT
[Getting Ahead Facilitator Training](#)

Wednesday, February 4 at 5:30pm CDT
[Getting Ahead Facilitator Training](#)

Friday, February 6 at 2:00pm CDT
[Poverty Action Committee Book Club](#)

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