



Knights In Action

Council 2506 Waconia, MN

January 2023

Keeping Christ in Christmas

The Knights “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest was held in December encouraging children and their families to see the light of Christ and be in the spirit of giving. By engaging the talents of our youth, we hope they will come to a deeper understanding of the true meaning of Christmas, and that their artwork will bring others to remember Christ in Christmas. Thanks to all that participated for your creativity and to the winners for giving us all inspiration.

Ages 11-14

Alexandra Tholkes



Ages 8-10

Palmer Conrad



Ages 5-7

Ryleigh Swenson



Respect Life Breakfast – January 22nd

On January 22, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a presidential proclamation designating the third Sunday of January (or close to that) as National Sanctity of Human Life Day. The Knights in partnership with Trinity Lutheran Church will be co-hosting the “Respect Life Breakfast” on Sunday, January 22nd from 8:00 am – 12:30 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Waconia. Please come join us for breakfast while supporting life. This is a “Free Will Offering”. Proceeds will go to support MN Concerned Christians for Life, Southwest Options for Women, and Lutherans for Life. **Please signup to help with the breakfast** at this [link](#) or contact Charlie Loegering at cloegering@comcast.net or 612-670-2752.

Knight of the Month – Stepping Up

Leading an event is something many of our Knights have experienced over the years and we are all grateful for these contributions to make our families, church, and communities a better place in the name of Christ. Stepping up when asked to help out is what our “Knight of the Month”, Chris Carson did when asked to be the coordinator for our Blood Drive. Chris always volunteers to provide a helping hand with our events and programs. A big thank you to Chris for doing all that you do (and giving us a laugh or two) for our Knights and neighbors.

Next KC Meeting – Guest Speaker

Our next Officer meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17th at 6:00 pm followed by the General Member Meeting at 7:00 pm at St Joes Parish Center in the church lower level. **Our guest speaker will be Julie Loscheider, Coats for Kids and Faith for Life Coordinator.** Join us to hear how we can help provide coats to young children and keep them warm. Snacks and beverages will be served along with shared fraternity from our brother Knights. See you then!



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Upcoming Events

Below is a list of the upcoming KC events in January - March. See final details for these events in upcoming newsletters.

KC Free Throw Contest – Sunday, January 15th, contact Trent Klein 952-201-1107

Respect Life Breakfast – Sunday, January 22rd, contact Charlie Loegering 612-670-2752

The Catholic Man – Second Wednesday of ea month 7:30 Parish Center – **All welcome!**

Faith In Action Blood Drive – Monday, February 13th, contact Chris Carson 515-554-0919

Fraternal Benefits Seminar “Watch Party” – Tuesday, February 21st 7:00 pm Parish Center

Fish Fry – Friday, February 22nd – Friday, March 31st, contact Chuck Walerius 952-270-4706

KC Faith in Action Blood Drive

The Knights of Columbus are co-coordinating the Waconia Faith in Action Blood Drive in partnership with North Memorial Blood Center on Monday February 13th from 9:30 am – 4:00 pm at St Joseph Church Parish Center. Spanning multiple faith-based organizations in Waconia and the surrounding area, we are focused on leaving no neighbor behind by giving life by giving blood. **Donation signup at this [Link](#)** or by calling 1-888-GIVE-BLD (888-448-3253).

Christmas Party Helps Enkrateia House of Hope

The Waconia Knights celebrated Christmas on December 20th together with over 70 brother Knights and family members. Through free will donations that evening, the Knights raised over \$1,000 that was donated to the Enkrateia House of Hope. Changing the hearts and minds of society about abortion by showing that we love both mother and child before and after birth is core to the Knights values. The Waconia Knights has adopted the [Enkrateia: House of Hope](#) and would like to thank Dorothy and Bill Arockiasamy for all they do to help mothers and save lives.



Member Experience Survey - Discerning Your Role with the Knights

To our new and current members, please know that we value your judgment, we appreciate your opinions, and we rely on your participation for the continued success of our council and parish. Our Knights of Columbus council conducts a variety of programs – activities where you can personally apply your talents and fulfill your ambitions. In an effort to ensure a great Knights of Columbus council experience, we ask that you complete the attached survey and return it to John Short jwsshort@gmail.com or mail to 747 Pintail Circle, Waconia, MN 55387 by February 15th. **All Knights that turn in a completed survey will have their names entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card.** Thank you in advance for your time to complete the survey.



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Financial Secretary and Treasurer – Opportunities for Growth

The Knights have an opportunity for members who want to bring their skills forward to help our council with two key roles – Financial Secretary and Treasurer. These positions are critical to the success of our organization and need to be filled. Please review the description of these two roles at this [link](#) and reach out to John Short jwsshort@gmail.com or 612-281-6215 if you have any questions or would like to help with either of these positions.

Council 2506 100 Year Anniversary – Save the Date!

Council 2506 will be celebrating it's 100 year anniversary on September 24, 2023 at Sovereign Estates. The festivities will include mass, social, dinner, and program. More details to come as the plans develop. If you are interested in helping with the planning of the celebration, please contact co-chairs John Short, Chuck Walerius, or Charlie Loegering.

Council 2506 New By-Laws Online

Please visit our council website under “About Us” for the new By-Laws online at this [link](#)

Waconia Knight - Serving Our Country Overseas

From Nick Kehtel, Council 2506 Faith and Social Media Director, and National Guard Officer.

Happy New Year to all my brother Knights! I hope you all had an excellent Christmas season and start to your 2023.

Christmas was a beautiful time here. On Christmas Eve, our base chaplain (a protestant minister from Chicago who serves in the Army Reserve) organized an ecumenical candlelight vigil with scripture readings and hymns – it was a wonderful experience to share in the promise and hope of the birth of our Savior in fellowship with Christians from all over the world who make up our coalition. On Christmas Day I was able to attend Mass at a nearby base with the Air Force chaplain Priest who has been traveling around providing access to the sacraments so far while I've been here. I was able to FaceTime with my wife, daughter, and other family as well, which brought me much joy.

This past month has overall been an exciting one for me – one of the fortunate things about where I am stationed is the access to a number of archeological and historical sites in Jordan. I was able to take advantage of a couple opportunities to see two which were high on my list, including the remarkable ancient city of Petra in the south of the country and then the impressive remnants of the Greco-Roman city of Jerash. One of the things that struck me at both these sites was the presence of early Christian churches amongst the other archeological remains – Byzantine in their construction and design, both sites still have beautiful floor mosaics preserved. The church in Petra, dating to around 400 A.D., has a massive baptistry in the rear of the structure which is considered one of the largest and best preserved from the era in the Levant.



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I also have had the opportunity to twice attend Mass at a local church dedicated to the St. John the Baptist. Located in the city of Madaba, the church is built on top of a hill in the city over the remains of an ancient fortress of King Herod. It is traditionally understood to be near the site where St. John the Baptist was beheaded by Herod's soldiers and has been recognized by the Vatican as a Shrine and pilgrimage site. The Mass is celebrated in Arabic, but the church is a Latin Rite parish as a part of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, and it has been easy to follow along with the different parts of the Mass. The significant number of Christians in Jordan continues to be a welcome surprise – it is a small, but thriving and devoted community.

I know how lucky I am to be able to experience the historical and sacred sites here. While these have been welcome and moral boosting experiences, most of my days here remain very busy and at times emotional. One of the tasks my staff section is responsible for his handling casualty reporting and managing the process to return wounded or deceased service members back home. About a week before Christmas, we lost a Marine Corp Special Forces member in Syria to suicide – it was my first time getting the call in the middle of the night to assist in managing this kind of loss, and given the time of year, it was especially difficult for our team. Suicide rates sadly are already high in the armed services, and in a deployed environment there tends to be a spike in the Christmas season. I ask that you please join me in praying for the repose of the soul of this Marine, and all our service members whose struggles with loneliness and depression have led them to commit suicide.

I pray that all your activities in service of our Church and community continue to go well for you all as we celebrate our 100 th year as Council. I have enjoyed keeping up on all the events you have been doing over these past months and I know how busy the coming months will be as well. I continue to be thankful for the prayers and support from our Council and Parish – they mean a great deal to both me and my family. Until next month – God bless you all!

– Nick Kehtel, Special Operations Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve

Grand Knight Corner

Happy New Year, it's going to be a big one for our council. This year we are celebrating our 100 year anniversary as a council. We are inspired by the legacy of those that have served before us and all their great work. We're looking forward to the next 100 years of service to this parish and community, growing our faith, leading our families, and supporting life. To do this, and continue our work, we need all our existing members and new members to join us by using our God given talents to help continue our mission of building a bridge to faith. I encourage you to let us know how you want to help the Knights by completing the enclosed member survey. All Knights completing the survey will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card 😊

John Short – Grand Knight

Member Experience Interest Survey

To our new and current members, please know that we value your judgment, we appreciate your opinions, and we rely on your participation for the continued success of our council and parish. Our Knights of Columbus council conducts a variety of programs – activities where you can personally apply your talents and fulfill your ambitions. In an effort to ensure a great Knights of Columbus council experience, we ask that you complete the following survey. Thank you and *Vivat Jesus!*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Marital Status: Married Single Widower If Married, Wife's Name: _____

Number of Children: Boys _____ Girls _____

Occupation: _____ Parish/Church: _____

Hobbies/Interests: _____

FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS

Please list your preferences for those Faith in Action programs you would be interested in volunteering at or attending.

FAITH	FAMILY	COMMUNITY	LIFE
<input type="checkbox"/> General Interest in Programs Designed for Faith Formation	<input type="checkbox"/> General Interest in Programs Designed to Strengthen Families	<input type="checkbox"/> General Interest in Programs Designed for Community Service	<input type="checkbox"/> General Interest in Programs Designed to Create a Culture of Life
<input type="checkbox"/> Into the Breach	<input type="checkbox"/> Family of the Month	<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Preparedness	<input type="checkbox"/> Christian Refugee Relief
<input type="checkbox"/> Pilgrim Icon Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Keep Christ in Christmas	<input type="checkbox"/> Free Throw Championship	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Rose
<input type="checkbox"/> Build the Domestic Church Kiosk	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Fully Alive	<input type="checkbox"/> Soccer Challenge	<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy Center Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Rosary	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Week	<input type="checkbox"/> Helping Hands	<input type="checkbox"/> Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP)
<input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Reflection	<input type="checkbox"/> Consecration to the Holy Family	<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest	<input type="checkbox"/> Novena for Life
<input type="checkbox"/> Holy Hour	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Prayer Night	<input type="checkbox"/> Coats for Kids	<input type="checkbox"/> Mass for People with Special Needs
<input type="checkbox"/> Sacramental Gifts	<input type="checkbox"/> Good Friday Family Promotion	<input type="checkbox"/> Global Wheelchair Mission	<input type="checkbox"/> March for Life
<input type="checkbox"/> Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Food for Families	<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat for Humanity	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Olympics
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Ultrasound
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

How much time do you think you can contribute to council activities?

1 hour per month 1 hour per week Multiple hours per week

What are some ideas you have for new or improved programs? _____

Would you be able to assist in leading any new or improved program? Yes No

What do you hope for your membership in our council? _____

Please submit this form to your Grand Knight

