



<b>Chaplain</b>	SK Fr. Michael Alber	<b>Grand Knight</b>	SK Brian Brown
<b>Deputy Grand Knight</b>	SK Doug Smith	<b>Chancellor</b>	SK Rich Schneider
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	SK Rex Waltersdorf	<b>Treasurer</b>	SK Dan Lawless
<b>Recorder</b>	SK William Vallier	<b>Advocate</b>	SK Gary Fedewa
<b>Warden</b>	SK Dan Arwood	<b>Lecturer</b>	SK Donald Gunderman
<b>Inside Guard</b>	SK John Hengesbach	<b>Outside Guard</b>	SK Dan Schafer
<b>Trustees</b>	SK Jacob Lowe	SK Robert Pline	SK Bob Pline

### **October, November December 2024**

### **Grand Knight's Report**

**As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. - 1 Peter 4:10**

Brother Knights,

Fall is well underway, and this newsletter will be looking at upcoming events into the beginning months of winter. It's hard to believe that we are already looking ahead to the end of the calendar year. The above verse from the first letter of saint Peter is one that I find to be both comforting and challenging as we enter the busiest times of the year for Knight's volunteering.

#### **Recent Volunteer Events**

- Cooking hot dogs and hamburgers for the middle school and high school youth groups
- Removing an unwanted 50-foot counter and 5x15 table from the computer lab to assist in school room renovations

#### **Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities**

- MI/Tootsie Roll Drive (Oct 11-13, 2024)
- Garage Sale (Oct 16-18, 2024)
- Bingo & Euchre (See page 4)

As I reflect on all the activity going on within our council, saint Peter's words above have me considering that each of us have been given many gifts from God. That's the comforting piece for me. God has equipped each of us to take part in a specific piece of His salvific mission. That also brings about the challenge: I must take an honest look at the ways in which I am (or am not) being a steward of the graces God has bestowed upon me. I would like to invite you into the same challenge of taking this very notion to your own time of prayer and reflection: what gifts has God given me and how am I (or how am I not) using those gifts to help my neighbor as we are commanded to do in so many places in scripture?

My hope for each of us is that we will all consider how God has blessed us with gifts that are specific for the path He has set before us and that we will choose to use those gifts for the benefit of our church and neighbors. If one or more of the upcoming Knights events is one that you would like to volunteer your gifts for, please reach out to me and I'll be happy to help make that happen. You can contact me at [gk2168@mikofc.org](mailto:gk2168@mikofc.org) or 517-526-1674.

Vivat Jesus,  
Brian Brown

## Message from Our Insurance Agent

September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. It's the one month each year that the life insurance industry coordinates a campaign aimed at educating folks about the importance of life insurance and helping them get the coverage they need. I don't want to bore you with lots of statistics, but a recent survey from LIMRA (Life Insurance Marketing Research Association) found that only 59% of Americans own life insurance and about half of those are underinsured. (Although this report didn't say it, I've got to think these percentages are pretty much the same in Canada.) So that means that 70% of the population either has no life insurance or has too little life insurance. So what does that have to do with the Knights? The historian, Christopher Kauffman, spent several years at the Supreme Office and at the Museum, researching the book that he wrote on the 100th anniversary of our founding. That book, Faith and Fraternalism, notes on page 13, "...he [Fr. McGivney] was deeply interested in pursuing the topic of a Catholic fraternal insurance society among groups of Catholic laymen of New Haven." Then on page 35 Mr. Kauffman goes on, "...he [Fr. McGivney again] spent his energy in promoting the insurance feature...his emphasis on business was his pastoral concern for the social and financial security of the family." Fr. McGivney lived both the social and the financial insecurity of a desperate family, with the breadwinner suddenly taken, that had to be supported. He left the seminary to work and support his mother and siblings. He didn't want other Catholic families to find themselves in such a predicament. That, and uniting men of faith, was the impetus for establishing our Order. Everyone who joined in those first years was insured; that was part and parcel of being in the organization. Now every member has a choice and every member should know what we do, and how we do it. Here's the process I use when I meet with families:

1. Discover – Identify & prioritize your financial goals
2. Gather Data – Collect facts & figures based on your current situation
3. Analyze – Input data, run calculations, identify shortfalls
4. Recommend – Propose a financial strategy designed to satisfy your goals
5. Implement – Choose a financial strategy and implement
6. Periodic Review – Review regularly, measure success, make adjustments

As you can tell, this is a painless process. But it can help any family, at any age, determine if they have blind spots in their coverage. It can help you avoid the pain of being underinsured. With a variety of life insurance products we offer we can help just about any person within any budget. I don't know about you, but I don't want to buy life insurance...I want to buy what life insurance provides: no change in lifestyle for the survivors...in the house where they want to be. It'll pay for a daughter's wedding, a child's college education and much more. What does life insurance provide? Peace of mind, security, freedom from anxiety, a safeguard from the unknown.

That's where I can help. Vivat Jesus!

Michael Thelen, FICF, LUTCF

Member of MDRT & NAFIC

(989) 593-2200 [michael.thelen@kofc.org](mailto:michael.thelen@kofc.org)



*Permanent and Term Life, Disability Insurance, Dualife,  
Mortgage and Long Term Care Insurance, IRA's, Roth IRA's,  
Annuities, Estate Planning, Fraternal Benefits*

**Call to Serve**  
*If it is to be, it is up to me.*

Thank you to the many Knights that are serving as His hands in our council. Where are you being called to serve? Please consider volunteering and serving our council and parish in new ways. Experienced Knights will walk you through and be available for any questions. Contact Brian Brown, Bill Vallier, and Gary Fedewa for more information. An opportunity to serve is coming soon with the MI/Tootsie Roll drive. Please say yes to brother Knight if they ask about volunteering for a shift and if you are not on someone's call list please reach out to Brian Brown or Gary Fedewa to find out how you can help. Our contact information is on page 4.

If you are interested in developing a fundraiser for the council, please reach out. There are many local and diocesan organizations that need help.

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**Honors**

When you see these men and families, thank them  
for their service to their families, church, council, and community.

<b>2024</b>	<b><u>Knight of the Month</u></b>	<b><u>Family of the Month</u></b>
<b>July</b>	Don Gunderman	Ben & Trisha Cross
<b>August</b>	John Vallier	Rich & Annette Schneider
<b>September</b>	Rick Vallier	Bryan & Karen Scheurer

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Please pray for these Knights and their families.



*Strengthen them with Your love and Your grace.  
Console them with Your blessed Presence.  
Grant them the courage to persevere.*



Bill Clark	Romane Lay	Father Mike Alber	The Alber Family
Jude Kramer	Eleanor Peake	Gary Hodge	Tom Keusch Jr.
Donald Barker	Dick Brown	Ken Schrauben	JoAnn Spitzley
Stephen Fabiano	Ronald Elston	Randy Hodge	Dorothy Keusch
Mike Keusch	Paul Jandernoa	John Russman	Jeff Davlin
Linda Russman	Don Pohl	Jim Klein	Dick Brown
Pam Brown	Noah Montpetit	Peyton Russman	Jerry & Jeanette Kramer

The people of Ukraine and Russia

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## Building Corporation News

The **Annual Fall Garage Sale** will be held October 16-17-18, 2024. Donations can be dropped off Wednesday October 16 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you have items that need to be picked up call Bill Vallier (517-526-2956) or Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798). The sale will be Thursday October 17 8:00am to 5:00pm and Fri October 18 8:00am to noon.

The **Annual Building Corporation raffle** ticket form is attached to the newsletter. The proceeds from the raffle will help as we continue to update the hall. We still have 5 major items on the update list: replace the ceiling in the large hall, freshen up the kitchen, replace the curtain between the two halls, and the largest of all, is the parking lot repair/replacement. Please consider purchasing a ticket.

**Patriotic (4th) Degree.** Not a 4th Degree member? Why not complete your journey to full Knighthood? The dress code is no longer a tux, just a dark suit. The Fall exemplification is being held in Charlotte, MI on Saturday October 5, 2024. Give Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798) or Bill Vallier (517-526-2956) a call for more information.

**Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll) Drive.** The Portland Council will be holding our Annual Tootsie Roll Drive the weekend of October 11 through October 13. The Church drive will be September 28 and 29. Last year our Council distributed a profit of \$7358.97. Thanks to all the captains and volunteers, let's do it again this year. We need 10 captains and 135 volunteers. Call Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798) or Brian Brown (517-526-1674) to volunteer, or if called by one of the captains to work a shift, PLEASE say yes.

### **Bingos**

Knights of Columbus Bingos will begin Sunday, October 6 at 1:00pm.

### **Senior Euchre Party**

Knights of Columbus Senior Euchre Parties will begin Wednesday, October 9 at 1:00pm.

### **Building Corporation Raffle**

We really appreciate the help of all the tickets sellers and buyers. The funds raised from this raffle help to support the upkeep of the hall. Contact Gary Fedewa if you have any questions.

<u>2024</u>	<u>\$100</u>	<u>\$75</u>	<u>\$50</u>
<b>July</b>	Glen Schafer	Jim Spohn	Jerry May
<b>August</b>	Don Gunderman	Jim & Doreen Spohn	Ron Smith
<b>September</b>	Ron Frazee	John Vallier	Greg Fedewa

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# Upcoming Events

Save this page for future reference

Any changes to the events below will be announced in the St. Patrick Parish bulletin, time permitting.

**Portland Council #2168**

Grand Knight

SK Brian Brown

[gk2168@mikofc.org](mailto:gk2168@mikofc.org)

517-526-1674

**Eucharistic Adoration is held every Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.  
Times are also being added on Monday and Wednesday.  
Please consider finding the time to spend some quiet time with our Lord.**

**\*See page 4 for the start of bingo & euchre**

## October 2024

Monday	10/7	Business Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday	10/8	Blood Drive	11:30AM-5:30PM
Fri-Sun	10/11-13	MI/Tootsie Roll Drive	See page 4
Wed-Fri	10/16-18	Garage Sale	See page 4
Monday	10/21	Social Meeting	6:00 PM

## November 2024

Monday	11/4	Business Meeting	7:00 PM
Monday	11/18	Social Meeting	7:00 PM

## December 2024

Christ in Christmas Poster Contest – Held in December			
Monday	12/2	Business Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday	12/10	Blood Drive	11:30AM-5:30 PM
Monday	12/16	Letter Stuffing & Social Meeting	6:00 PM

Knights Hall, 690 Maynard Road, Portland			District #301	
<b>Hall Rental</b>	Jude Kramer	517-647-2274	<b>District Deputy</b>	SK Larry Adams
<b>Building Corporation</b>	Gary Fedewa	517-927-0798	<b>Lake Odessa Council #14404</b>	SK Joseph Hickey
			<b>Pewamo Council #8071</b>	GK Ron Simon
			<b>Portland Council #2168</b>	SK Brian Brown
<b>Worthy State Deputy</b>	Barry Borsenik		<b>Saranac Council #11113</b>	GK Mike Lamphere

**Knights of Columbus Portland Council 2168  
Annual Building Corporation 12 Month Raffle**

This raffle gives you a chance to win a sizable cash prize throughout the year as well as helping with the Building Corporation expenses. Each ticket costs \$50 and automatically enters the ticket holder in 36 drawings over the next calendar year. Three tickets will be drawn at the regular business meeting each month at the Knights Hall, where Portland Council 2168 holds regular meetings.

Monthly Prizes:      1<sup>st</sup> Ticket Drawn - \$100  
                             2<sup>nd</sup> Ticket Drawn - \$75  
                             3<sup>rd</sup> Ticket Drawn - \$50

Winning tickets are returned to the pool of 130 tickets and are eligible for every drawing!

The raffle will begin Monday, January 6, 2025, immediately following the regular business meeting. You need not be present to win. Winners will be promptly notified by mail following the drawing each month.

**ONLY 130 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD.** Ticket sales are on a first come first serve basis.

To purchase a ticket please include a \$50 check payable to **Knights of Columbus** with the completed form below and mail to: Gary Fedewa  
9975 Kent Street  
Portland, MI 48875

Your ticket will be sent by return mail.

You can also purchase tickets from any Knights of Columbus officer.

Any questions please call/text Gary Fedewa at 517-927-0798 or email at [garyfedewa@hotmail.com](mailto:garyfedewa@hotmail.com)

Thank You for supporting the Knights of Columbus.

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**TICKET APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_