

AUGUST 2025

GCU

MAGAZINE

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George Kofel
Chairman, Board of Directors

GCU Welcomes New President

I am pleased to announce that the GCU Board of Directors, at a special meeting held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, promoted current Chief Operating Officer Jeremy Stephenson to the role of GCU President/CEO effective August 1, 2025.

As a 25-year insurance industry veteran, Jeremy joined the GCU in 2024 after a successful career at the Sammons Financial Group as an Associate Vice-President. He spearheaded the efforts in upgrading our digital infrastructure along with developing a strong network of agents and agencies to expand the GCU footprint across

the United States. He has brought fresh ideas to the Home Office and has energized our staff.

With an impressive track record of success and deep understanding of our industry, Jeremy will bring valuable insight and experience that aligns perfectly with GCU's mission and goals. He will continue to build a greater vision for the future of GCU.

Please join me in congratulating Jeremy and wishing him a successful tenure in his new role as GCU President/CEO.

PRESIDENT/CEO REPORT



Jeremy Stephenson
President/CEO

Moving GCU Forward

Building on Tradition, Growing for Tomorrow
I am deeply honored and humbled by the trust the GCU Board of Directors has placed in me as I step into the role of President/CEO of GCU. I want to thank our Chairman for his kind introduction, the Board of Directors for their confidence in me, and most importantly, you—our members—for your support. Since June 15, 2024, when I joined GCU as Chief Operating Officer, I have witnessed first-hand the strength of GCU's fraternal mission and the dedication of our members.

Building on Tradition

For over 133 years, GCU has stood as a beacon of financial security, faith, and fellowship for its members. Founded in 1892 by the union of 14 lodges, our society has always existed to improve the lives of our members rather than to profit shareholders. We invest our resources back into the people and communities we serve, staying true to our founders' vision. Over the decades, GCU has grown into a fraternal family of over 50,000 members bound by mutual support and faith. Today, we remain a vibrant organization

CONTINUED

grounded in our values and community service. Our rich history and mission are the bedrock upon which we will build our future.

Growing for Tomorrow

We must preserve what makes GCU special while also embracing growth and change. I believe our path forward centers on three strategic priorities that will guide us into tomorrow. These priorities ensure that we continue to thrive and serve you better in a changing world, without losing sight of who we are.

- **Member Growth** – GCU’s fraternal strength comes from our members. Growing our membership means welcoming new members into our GCU family and engaging the next generation. By expanding our reach, we secure GCU’s future and extend our ability to do good for others. I am committed to finding new ways to attract and retain members, so that more individuals & families can experience the protection and community GCU offers.
- **Technology Modernization** – To serve you effectively, we must keep pace with the times. That’s why we will continue modernizing our systems and tools to improve your member experience. Over the past year, we’ve begun upgrading our technology—including a new online member portal—to make it easier to manage accounts and access services. Moving forward, we will leverage technology to provide even more convenience, security, and efficiency. Modernization isn’t about change for its own sake; it’s about ensuring GCU remains strong and relevant for generations to come.
- **Community Outreach** – Giving back is at the core of who we are as a fraternal benefit society. We will broaden our community outreach by strengthening our volunteer programs and charitable initiatives, empowering members to make a difference in their local communities. Through efforts like our GCU GoGive! program, which provides seed money to help members support causes they care about, we will continue to live the motto of “neighbor helping neighbor.” By expanding partnerships with churches, local charities, and constellations, GCU can extend its compassion even further.

While these three priorities define what we will focus on, equally important is **how** we pursue them. For me, that means leading as a servant leader. I see my position not as one of authority above you, but as one of service to you. In practice, this means I am committed to listening to your needs and ideas and responding with action. I intend to maintain open lines of communication—through our meetings, events, and any time you wish to reach out—so that your voices are heard loud and clear. Together, we will shape initiatives that truly reflect our members’ needs and aspirations.

Getting to Know Me

While I am new to many of you, I hope to change that in the months ahead. I grew up in Iowa and have spent nearly 25 years in the insurance and financial services industry, with a focus on helping organizations grow through innovation and service. I hold an MBA and am passionate about creating strong, mission-driven cultures.

Outside of work, I’m a proud father of two wonderful daughters—Madeline (24) and Abigail (20)—who continue to be my greatest source of pride and perspective. I’m also an avid Iowa State Cyclone fan, with five generations of my family supporting the university. Our roots run deep in Iowa farming country, and that background has shaped my work ethic, resilience, and values. You’ll likely also hear about my dog Zeus and my love for tailgating, too!

Moving Forward Together

In this spirit of service and collaboration, I am excited for what lies ahead. GCU is strong because of the collective heart of our members and our shared values. By building on our traditions and embracing innovation, I am confident that GCU’s best days are still to come. I invite each of you to be an active part of this journey. Please share your feedback, get involved in our programs and volunteer opportunities, support our Foundation, invest in our products, and help us shape the future of GCU. With your commitment, we will continue building on tradition and growing for tomorrow—together.

Thank you for your continued trust and for being part of the GCU family. I look forward to working with the GCU Board of Directors, the GCU Management & Support Team and all of you as we write the next chapter of GCU’s story.

GCU Represented at Byzantine Assembly 2025

I had the honor of attending the Byzantine Assembly in Whiting, IN from July 16th to July 19th and never had a warmer welcome.

On my first day GCU Spiritual Advisor Father Val Michlik introduced me to so many amazing people. One of which was Archbishop Michel Jalakh out of Rome, who shared with me how important family and faith is in today's busy world.

I started my second day by participating in my first Byzantine Divine Liturgy, which was truly music to my ears. I had never heard such lovely music in prayer, and it was my first time singing the Our Father.

For the remaining days, I witnessed many great speakers and discussions on how to bring more people closer

to God. It was refreshing to see all of the many friendships there and how many new ones were developed. Father Cyril and his team did an amazing job putting together this Byzantine Assembly, with great speakers, an opportunity to share ideas, and most importantly ask questions.

Nicole Gailey of the GCU staff joined me the last two days. We had a GCU table with information on our company, products and services. There we visited with GCU members and non-members, where we answered questions about our history and how we help families with our many great insurance and retirement products.

I left the meeting thankful for the experience I was given to support and be a part of such a fine assembly



of passionate, sincere and enlightened individuals.

John Luksa | National Sales Director





Tim Demetres
Chief Financial Officer

2025 Mid-Year Financial Review

Since the start of the year, we experienced significant changes in fiscal policy with the election of our country's new president. Capital markets have become range bound as treasury rates decreased approximately 60 bps compared to rates at December 31, 2024. Rest assured, there has been significant volatility along the way. With much skepticism and concern surrounding tariff negotiations it has, so far, produced little negative impact on the equity markets. The U.S. economy remains resilient and stronger than ever. GCU, like many others in our industry, has also experienced significant volatility selling our products and retaining members. We manage and sustain our businesses with a long-term perspective closely adhering to rate discipline and providing excellent member service. Trust in GCU to be a Safe, Secure, and Stable community-based fraternal benefit society!

The highlights of the 2025 mid-year financial review are as follows:

GCU's total assets increased \$8.4 million to \$2.79 billion and surplus decreased \$7.9 million as of June 30, 2025 compared to December 31, 2024 mainly due to a \$4.8 million increase in the asset valuation reserve and a \$3.4 million decrease in unrealized gains.

Income (loss) before net realized capital gains (losses) totaled (\$1.30) million for the six months ended June 30,

2025 compared to a loss of (\$1.7) million in 2024. The net loss for the first quarter was primarily due to increasing annuity crediting rates and lower net investment income from outflows on annuity products. Net income after realized capital gains (loss) was \$732 thousand in 2025 compared to a net loss of (\$1.2) million in 2024. Net realized gains was \$2.0 million in 2025 compared to \$403 thousand in 2024.

Total Assets as of June 30, 2025 were \$2.790 billion compared to \$2.782 billion at the end of 2024. The moderate increase in total assets reflects net positive cash flows invested primarily in bonds.

Liabilities grew relative to new life and annuity sales, net of outflows from surrender activity and totaled \$2.591 billion at June 30, 2025 compared to \$2.575 billion at year-end 2024. The \$16 million increase in total liabilities is due primarily to the \$16 million increase in annuity reserves.

Total Income decreased \$36.6 million to \$194.2 million for the first six months compared to \$230.8 million in 2024 due to lower sales and exchanges of annuity products. Net investment income increased to \$2.4 million.

Operating expenses, before the increase in reserves, totaled \$185.6 million versus \$189.5 million in 2025, a decrease of \$3.9 million or -2%. GCU disbursed \$9 million more in annuity benefits for death claims, and for full and partial surrenders compared to the prior year. Annuity exchanges decreased \$11.4 million. General insurance expenses were \$1.2 million higher in 2025 when compared to 2024.

Partially offsetting the increase in annuity benefits paid, the change in reserves totaled \$9.7 million in 2025 compared to \$42.8 million in 2024. The change in reserves

Summary of Financial Statistics

(000's omitted)	6/30/2025	6/30/2024	Change
Total Income	\$194,187	\$230,781	\$(36,594)
Total Expenses	195,319	232,283	(36,963)
Inc. Bef. Real. Gains (Losses)	(1,282)	(1,650)	368
Net Income (Loss)	732	(1,247)	1,979
Balance Sheet Summary	6/30/2025	12/31/2024	Change
Assets	\$2,790,289	\$2,781,889	\$8,400
Surplus (Net Worth)	199,085	206,976	(7,891)
Asset Valuation Reserve	42,604	37,761	4,843
Interest Maintenance Reserve	7,183	13,146	(5,962)
Total Adjusted Capital (TAC)	241,844	244,892	(3,048)
Solv. Ratio by Total Adj. Capital	109.5	109.7	(0.2)
Financial Strength Rating - KBRA	A-	A-	
Financial Strength Rating - AM Best	A-	A-	

Change in Surplus

(000's omitted)	
Beginning Surplus - Dec. 31	\$206,976
Net Income	732
Change in Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	(3,400)
GCU Holding Company & Other	500
Change in Pension Asset/Liability	—
Changes in Non-Admitted Assets	(879)
Changes in Asset Valuation Reserve	(4,843)
Net Change in Surplus	(7,890)
Ending Surplus - Current Period	\$199,086

considers premiums received, death claims and annuity benefits paid and interest accumulation.

Surplus at June 30, 2025 decreased \$7.9 million to \$199.1 million from \$207 million year-end. The net decrease in surplus primarily reflects a decrease in net unrealized gains and an increase in the asset valuation reserve.

Total Adjusted Capital (TAC), a risk metric used by regulators and rating agencies, decreased slightly to \$241.8 million as of June 30, 2025, from \$244.9 million at December

31, 2024. TAC begins with \$199.1 million of surplus and adds back the asset valuation reserve of \$42.6 million and one-half the dividend liability of \$150,000. The solvency ratio based on TAC showed a minimal change at 109.5% as of June 30, 2025. The consistency of GCU's solvency ratio reflects its continued financial strength to meet the obligations to members and provide the foundation for future growth.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable summer, let the sun shine upon us all! Tim

GCU INCOME STATEMENT

Six Months 2025 vs. 2024

INCOME (000's omitted)	6/30/2025	6/30/2024	Change
Life Premium	\$ 3,002	\$ 4,763	\$ (1,761)
Annuity Premium	98,674	124,542	(25,868)
Annuity Premium Exchanges	29,058	40,459	(11,401)
Accident & Health	172	189	(16)
Subtotal	130,906	169,954	(39,047)
Net Investment Income	62,146	59,781	2,364
Amort. of Int. Maint. Resrv.	805	734	71
Commissions-Reinsurance	64	121	(57)
Other	266	191	75
Total Income	\$194,187	\$230,782	\$(36,593)

EXPENSES

Death Benefits - Life Ins.	\$ 1,813	\$ 2,086	\$ (272)
Annuity Benefits Paid	140,779	131,754	9,026
Annuity Benefits Exchanges	29,058	40,459	(11,401)
Life Insurance Surrenders	905	341	564
Accident/Health Benefits Paid	152	175	(22)
Commissions	5,406	8,654	(3,248)
General Operating Expenses	6,662	5,504	1,159
Ins., Taxes, Bank & Audit Fees	293	206	87
Pension Expense	94	170	(75)
Int. on Contract & Dep. Accts.	452	176	276
Subtotal	185,617	189,524	(3,907)
Changes to Reserves	9,702	42,759	(33,056)
Total Expenses	\$195,319	\$232,283	\$(36,963)
Net Gain/Loss Bef. Refunds	(1,132)	(1,501)	369
Refunds to members	150	148	2
Net Gain/Loss after Refunds	(1,282)	(1,649)	367
Net Realized Gains/(Losses)	2,014	403	1,611
Net Income	\$ 732	\$ (1,246)	\$ 1,978

BALANCE SHEETS

June 30, 2025 vs. December 31, 2024

ASSETS (000's omitted)	6/30/2025	12/31/2024	Change
Bonds	\$2,581,035	\$2,567,927	\$13,108
Preferred Stocks	16,329	16,761	(432)
Common Stocks	28,669	27,230	1,439
Alternative Investments	79,840	77,363	2,477
Cash//Short Term Invest.	30,428	37,292	(6,864)
Mortgages	2,547	2,570	(24)
Certificate Loans	850	971	(120)
Derivatives	4,672	5,557	(885)
Real Estate	15,266	15,463	(197)
Inv. Income Due & Accrued	29,201	29,331	(130)
Other	1,452	1,424	28

Total Assets **\$2,790,289** **\$2,781,889** **\$8,400**

Total Change Year to Year **1%**

LIABILITIES

Life Reserve Fund	\$102,770	\$101,762	\$1,008
Annuity Reserve Fund	2,429,250	2,412,957	16,293
Accident Health Resrv. Fund	127	124	3
Employee Pension Fund	6,634	6,390	243
Adv. Prem. & Fut. Rfnd. Resrvs.	351	350	1
Pending Investment Trade	156	4	153
Accounts Payable	1,413	833	580
Refund Accum. and Other	714	1,587	(872)
Asset Valuation Resrv. - AVR	42,604	37,761	4,843
Interest Maint. Reserve - IMR	7,183	13,146	(5,962)
Total Liabilities	\$2,591,204	\$2,574,913	\$16,291
Surplus Fund	199,085	206,976	(7,891)
Total Liabilities & Surplus	\$2,790,289	\$2,781,889	\$8,400
Solvency Ratio	109.5%	109.7%	-0.2%

*Adds AVR + 1/2 of dividend liability to surplus.

Financial information is unaudited and presented on the statutory basis of accounting. Totals may vary slightly due to rounding.



Fr. Valerian M. Michlik

GCU Spiritual Advisor

Obstacles

We all enjoy the summer here in South-western Pennsylvania. However, I must say that this year's summer has been a particularly soggy one. Still, one of my favorite activities when it gets warmer is jogging across the street at Gilfillan Farm.

This historic farm is currently the last operational farm in the Upper St. Clair community. It has been part of this community for over 170 years. In 1979, this farm was registered as a National Historical Place and is now administered by the Historical Society for the enjoyment of the community.

On Tuesday, April 29, we had a terrible storm in the Pittsburgh area. This large storm left a wake of destruction in the region; large trees toppled from the strength of the winds, and roofs were torn off buildings. A few days after the storm, I decided to go jogging at Gilfillan Farm. As I was coming up the hill through the woods, I came across this huge tree lying on



the ground because of the storm. To continue jogging on the trail, I had to find my way around this obstacle.

My friend, how do you handle obstacles in your life? According to Bertie Charles Forbes (Scottish American financial journalist and author who founded Forbes magazine): "History has demonstrated that the most notable winners usually encountered heart-breaking obstacles before they triumphed. They won because they refused to become discouraged by their defeats."

Facing obstacles in life is not always easy. Some say that obstacles in life are just opportunities in disguise. Enduring obstacles, going through personal storms, doesn't always feel that way. Looking back, I try to imagine what my great-grandfather went through when he arrived in Pittsburgh in the early 1900s. Leaving behind his village, his wife, children, and loved ones in "*Staryj Kraj- the Old Country*" he arrived in the United States to face a foreign language, an unfamiliar culture, and grueling labor that he endured daily, all while continuing to support his family

back home. How did my great-grandfather, many of your ancestors, and the founders of the GCU overcome these enormous obstacles in life?

They knew they were not alone; they took comfort in the knowledge that they were never alone in their struggles. They faced obstacles in life with deep faith, faith that was received in those wooden churches of the Carpathian region. The kind of faith that teaches us that God promises to walk beside us, carrying us through every trial and tribulation we face. Faith that reminds us that, with His help, we can overcome any obstacle and emerge stronger on the other side.

It is true that obstacles in life can indeed draw us closer to God. How often, when we are facing struggles, do we run to God, and he receives us with open arms? But there are also times in life when an obstacle can be a much-needed wake-up call. Let me be clear that having a relationship with God will not eliminate obstacles in life. But having that faith will make us stronger while facing these personal obstacles, and God will give us the grace to get through them.

After several years of working in Pennsylvania, my great-grandfather returned to "*Staryj Kraj- the Old Country*" and purchased a farm for his family (which was afterwards confiscated by the communist regime). From what I have learned, he was a good man, and he spoke often about his stay in America, but he also endured serious lung issues due to the harsh labor conditions. He even shared with others in the old country his experience in America and words in English.

I believe that even though my great-grandfather was facing obstacles in life, they allowed him to develop and discover his gifts. Obstacles and challenges that we encounter in life have a way of introducing us to parts of ourselves that we never knew existed. Obstacles in life can be hard to endure, but maybe they will allow God to expose the gifts He has placed in you.

Several weeks later, the tree on the trail at Gilfillan Farm was removed. Now I can go jogging without any obstacles in my way. Almighty God never intended for our gifts to lie dormant. So, the next time an obstacle comes our way, rather than giving up, why don't we use this as an opportunity for our hearts to come alive and allow God to display His ability through us!



John Luksa
National Sales Director

Do You Have Enough Life Insurance?

Have you ever wondered if you had enough life insurance for the ones you love the most? Let me share a personal story. I was 33 years old, and my wife and I were expecting our first child. It was 9 AM on a typical Tuesday morning. I was in a business meeting going over company goals, and out of nowhere, a cold sweat came over me and my heart was beating very quickly. There came a point where I felt like my heart was going to beat out of my chest. Excusing myself from the meeting, I had a coworker drive me to the ER. Once there, they hooked me up to an EKG machine and it was determined that my heart was beating at a high, irregular pace. My wife Teri, who was four months pregnant at the time, came into the room with tears in her eyes.

After attempting a few non-invasive options such as ingesting Niacin pills and other medical suggestions, nothing seemed to be working to bring my heartbeat back to normal levels. After some time, the doctor came in and explained to us that the heart is a pump made up of muscle tissue that is regulated by an electrical system. He said that right now there's a lot of electrical activity around your heart and we need to push the reset button. So we asked the question, "What does that mean and what are the next steps?" The doctor said, "Well we need to do a defibrillation of your heart and then our hope is your body's natural pacemaker will be reestablished with a normal rhythm." I answered, "So you are going to stop my heart, so that it can start again with a normal heartbeat?" The doctor's response was, "Yes, we will put you out and then defibrillate you. When you come out of the anesthesia, your heart should be back to normal."

Many things go through your head when you are faced with uncertainty. Is my soul ready? Do I have enough life insurance? Will my wife and unborn child be financially secure if I don't wake up?

As they put on the anesthesia mask over my nose and mouth asking me to count backwards from 100, all I could think of were the answers to those questions. As the world started to fade around me, my answers were yes to all the questions. But even though I knew there was a better place for me if things didn't work out and that I had enough insurance for Teri to keep our same lifestyle, I truly wished I had more life insurance on myself.

As I woke from what seemed like one second to eternity, the nurse asked me my name and my age. I responded with, "My name is John Luksa and I am 19 years old!" That answer prompted many laughs in the OR as I was 33 years old. The nurse responded with a chuckle, "Welcome back!"

In the months to follow, I was tested by cardiologist that confirmed I had a healthy heart. The doctors attributed my experience to stress, caffeine and high blood pressure. Coming from a family with a history of high blood pressure and cholesterol, I decided to work with my doctors on reducing those risks. I was placed on a program that controlled my blood pressure and cholesterol which I'm still on today. I also made some lifestyle changes which included: exercise, drinking decaffeinated tea, exploring new activities/hobbies to relax, and spending more time with family and friends.

Although at the time of my experience it felt like a curse, it truly ended up being a blessing. It gave me a second chance to be more present to my loved ones and the ability to reassess the true protection and legacy I wanted to leave them in my absence.

GCU has a very strong portfolio of life products to choose from to meet our members' protection needs. When was the last time you asked yourself if you have the right amount of protection in place to protect your loved ones? Reach out to your GCU agent today for a quick assessment of your family's needs.

This year's theme was **"Invested in Hometown Pride!"**

2025 Art Contest Winners



First Place Age 6 & Under
Dawson Crouse, Jefferson Hills, PA
Lodge 8344



First Place Age 7-9 Genevieve Revilak, West Mifflin, PA Lodge 8344

A young girl wearing her Steelers t-shirt against Pittsburgh's downtown skyline.

A few of my Pittsburgh favorites.



First Place Age 10-12 Scarlett Revilak, West Mifflin, PA Lodge 8344

The bridges that connect our neighborhoods in Pittsburgh.



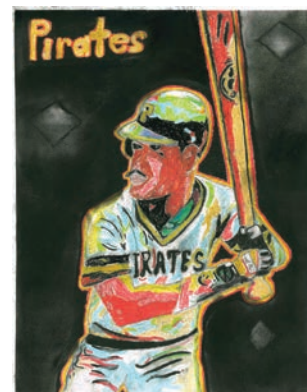
Second Place Age 6 & Under
Michael Como, Branchburg, NJ
Lodge 8335

Hometown golf course. Friends & neighbors play in tournaments, beautiful countryside.

Little League Baseball brings me hometown pride.



Second Place Age 7-9
Luke Pentz, Somerset, NJ Lodge 8335

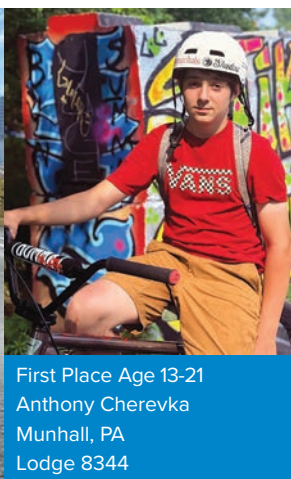


Second Place Age 10-12
Michaela Revilak,
West Mifflin, PA Lodge 8344

A Pittsburgh Pirate player gripping the bat with fierce determination.

This year's theme was
"Invested in Hometown Pride!"

2025 Photo Contest Winners

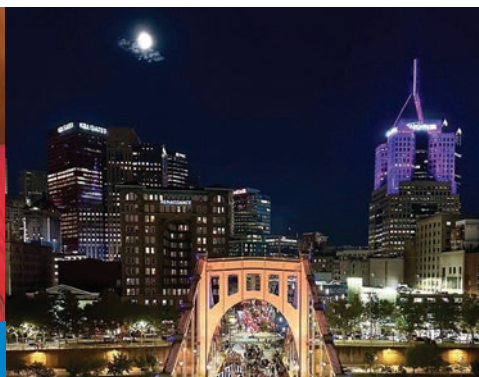


First Place Age 13-21
Anthony Cherevka
Munhall, PA
Lodge 8344

I love to ride BMX and Wheelie Bikes. On this particular day, I rode into Downtown Pittsburgh with my friends and thought this would be a perfect picture to show off my bike and our beautiful city.



First Place Age 22+
Jessica Semego
Munhall, PA
Lodge 8344



The photo was taken in the evening from a Ferris Wheel. It shows the hustle and bustle of the city-yet incorporates the stillness of the full moon in the night sky.

Taken at the Lackawanna State Park, June of 2022, for my high school photography class.



Second Place Age 13-21
Makyla Cordaro
Scranton, PA Lodge 8344



Second Place Age 22+
Wendy Heberling
Punxsutawney, PA Lodge 8344

This photo was taken a short distance from my house. The eagles are coming back.



Atty. John J. Urban

Lessons in the Law

Back to Basics

I was reminded that August is National Will Month. Now is the time to write that will that you have not done yet. Depending on what article you read, 32-47% of people do not have a will. So, I can say close to 50% of people do not have a will. What this means is if you die without a will, your State will make your loved ones follow the laws established for those dying without a will. This also means that your assets can be transferred to someone you do not want to inherit your money. Typically, this is referred to as intestate succession. The law determines who your heirs are and what amounts they receive. Is this what you want?

Most of us want to decide who are our heirs and who should get our money. However, you cannot disinherit your spouse in a will—there are other ways to do that which is beyond the scope of this article. Even if you have a will, have you reviewed it recently? Are your beneficiaries still alive? Are the executors still the persons you want in charge? Some statistics show that 50% of wills are in need of updating.

A good estate plan consists of an updated will, a durable power of attorney for finances, a durable power of attorney for health and a living will. If you have all four of these documents, you are on your way to controlling who is in charge should you become incapacitated or die. As I have indicated before, my tag line in a networking group is “Plan Ahead Before You’re Dead.”

In my 50 years as an attorney I have had many people upset, disappointed and angry when the will is read and there are problems with the will or there is no will. Many dissatisfied beneficiaries have told me that this isn’t what their mom or dad wanted. Unfortunately, we have to follow the will or the laws of the State where you reside.

We all can benefit during National Will Month to take the time to review our wills or make an appointment with an attorney to draft a will.

Questions, comments or ideas about future articles contact me at jurban.gcu@GCUusa.com

GCU Home Office Hours of Operation

The GCU Home Office (800.722.4428) is open Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 5 PM EST.

The Call Center (855.306.0607) accepts calls Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 7 PM EST and Fridays 8:30 AM to 5 PM EST.

The Home Office will be closed Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day.

5400 Tuscarawas Road, Beaver, PA 15009





Doreen Kozemchak, a volunteer and Trish Roberts.

Community Matching Funds

SMITHTON, PA

The Farmhouse Ministry

Ascension Church in Clairton, PA collected toiletries and other needs for "The Farmhouse Ministry." The organization is a volunteer-driven nonprofit dedicated to making every family feel wanted and valued. From a rustic farmhouse in Smithton, they provide essential resources like toiletries, clothing, food and household goods at no cost across communities in Western Pennsylvania and beyond. The Ministry ensures folks leave feeling loved and uplifted. Beyond meeting

physical needs, they focus on spiritual nourishment, offering prayer, encouragement and a message of hope. They assist individuals and families who have had fires, floods, job loss and also provide for children's needs with new shoes, coats, hats, activity bags and much more. They are in the process of expanding their facilities and expressed their thanks for all of the items we dropped off.

On Sunday, June 22, volunteers at The Farmhouse Ministry were thrilled to receive a GCU Matching Funds check to help with their upcoming projects for children and families in need. Thanks to the GCU for adding to the success of the collection.

Trish Roberts



Sandy Momyer, Director at Farmhouse Ministry Doreen Kozemchak, Kayla Cunliffe and Trish Roberts.



Community Matching Funds

PITTSBURGH, PA

Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank

A memorial food drive was held on Saturday, July 12 in memory of David Bannon to benefit the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Thanks to the GCU Community Matching Funds program the food drive and monetary donations were matched to increase the events donation to the Food Bank.

Jamie Rosnick



Mark Pavlick presenting the check to Debbie Vick, Mother of Jaime Vick-Moran.

Community Matching Funds

APOLLO, PA

11th Annual Jaime Vick-Moran Memorial Golf Outing

The annual golf outing was held on Saturday, June 6 at Rolling Fields Golf Club in Murrysville, PA to raise funds for scholarship recipients. The golf outing held in memory of Jaime Vick-Moran also benefits Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, St. Vincent College, Make-a-Wish and We Serve First Foundation. In addition to the golf outing, there are various raffles and games of chance. A dinner is

held also. The GCU Matching Funds for the basket raffle portion of the event was greatly appreciated.

Karen Pavlick





Fr. Valerian Michlik is presented with GCU Matching Funds check by GCU Parish Coordinator Dorothy Mayernik.

Community Matching Funds

UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA

Lasagna Dinner Fundraiser

On Sunday, June 1, a Lasagna Dinner Fundraiser was organized to assist parishioners and neighbors who suffered damages from the devastating storm on Tuesday, April 29. Sincere thanks to all who helped organize and prepare the delicious lasagna dinner. We especially thank the sell-out crowd for making this such a successful event and the GCU for the Community Matching Funds grant.

Dorothy Mayernik



Chef Tom.



Toni Wolfe & Mike Kiss.



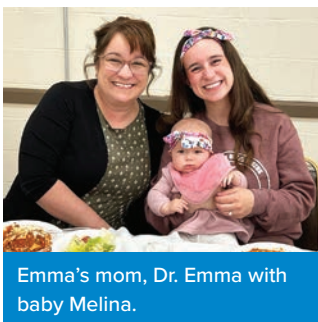
Steve Hanna and Matthew Barty.



Mary Eicher and Lois Griffith.



All enjoyed the lasagna.



Emma's mom, Dr. Emma with baby Melina.



Debbie Clinton, Gene Beresteky and deRocco Horwatt.



Dessert table.



The DeWitt family: Stratton, Atticus and Jonathan.



St. John's GCU Parish Coordinator Ivanna Prodanets, Executive Director of St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen Mike Cianciotta, Rev. Mykhaylo Prodanets and Steven Kozich.

Community Matching Funds

WILKES-BARRE, PA

St. Vincent dePaul Soup Kitchen

On June 17th, a check was presented to St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen for \$1,677.⁵⁰ from a Lenten collection made by the St. John's parish family. A check from The GCU Community Matching Funds was presented at the same time in the amount of \$1,677.⁵⁰ for a total donation of \$3,355.⁰⁰.

Ivanna Prodanets

Community Matching Funds

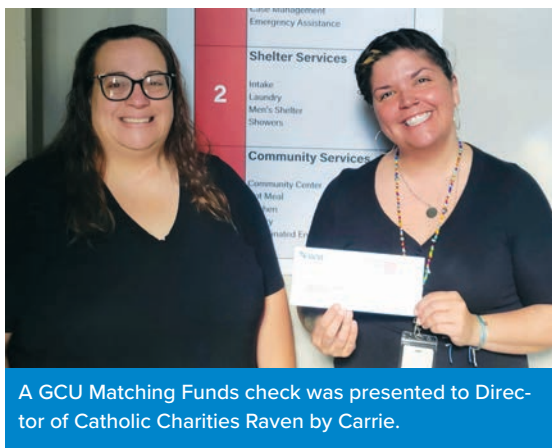
JANESVILLE, WI

Evening of Inspiration: Celebrating Hope Annual Gala Fundraiser

This annual fundraiser for GIFTS Men's Shelter was held on Tuesday, May 6 with video shorts and presentations from the executive director, leaders and past individuals who have utilized the homeless shelter. The speakers encouraged members who use the shelter to have a relationship with Christ and enter back into the community. The event received GCU Agent Matching Funds—thank you GCU!



Chad J. Karl | GCU Agent



A GCU Matching Funds check was presented to Director of Catholic Charities Raven by Carrie.

Community Matching Funds

LORAIN, OH

St. Nicholas Shoebox Almsgiving Project

The March Bagel Social started the collection process for the 20th Annual Shoebox Project that benefits the St. Elizabeth Center in Lorain, OH. Shoe boxes and monetary donations were collected through April when designated shoppers went to purchase all the items needed to assemble shoe boxes with basic necessities like body wash, toothpaste and socks. The shoe boxes are given to anyone in need who visits the Catholic Charities Family Center. The sorting of donations and assembling of the shoe boxes took place on May 16-17 with the delivery to the St. Elizabeth Center on May 28. Sixty-four shoe boxes were filled and donated this year.

Thanks to all the people who volunteered their time and money to this worthy project. Thank you to the GCU for the Community Matching Funds program and its donation to St. Elizabeth Center.

Anne Dillon

Community Matching Funds

JESSUP, PA

Jessup 33rd Annual Carnival

The Jessup Hose Company #2 Fundraising Carnival was held Wednesday, May 21 through Sunday, May 25, with rain each day. Even with rain, the kitchen did very well and the GCU Community Matching Funds helped to make the event a success.

Michaela Mancak



Michaela Mancak presenting the GCU Community Matching Funds check to president of Jessup Hose Co. #2, Mr. Billy Muchal.

Community Matching Funds

IINDIANA, PA

Indiana County Camp Cadet Golf Classic

The Golf Classic is a charitable event to benefit the Indiana County Camp Cadet Program. Providing children with valuable experience with law enforcement. This program is great for the children in the



community during the summer. Thanks to GCU for the Agent Matching Funds that boosted the events profits.

Nolan Stokes



Community Matching Funds

PHOENIX, AZ

Mother's Day Tea

The Phoenix Constellation sponsored a Community Matching Funds event for the Catholic Daughters of America Scholarship Fund. This was a great event with a luncheon, desserts, games, best hat competition and lots of raffle prizes. Families brought their mothers and friends. The kids enjoyed lots of games. Thanks to the GCU for adding to the event success.

Joanie Mahar



Pittsburgh Deafblind Lions Annual Pasta Fundraiser



Pittsburgh, PA. Pittsburgh DeafBlind Lions Club hosted its annual Pasta Event at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Church in South Side-Pittsburgh on Saturday, June 7. The event was well attended by neighbors, parishioners and Lions members. Homemade alfredo and marinara sauces were made by Lion Greg and Bev Rebovich (sister of Lion Barb). Meatballs,

salad, bread and desserts were available for eat in or takeout. With the profits from the event the Club was able to donate to South Side Kids, Holy Mary Food Pantry, and many of the Lions Foundations helping with sight and hearing support. Thanks to all the volunteers, the chefs and those who supported our annual fundraiser. Thanks to the GCU GoGive! program for the seed money to purchase supplies and ingredients for the event.

Barbara Rebovich



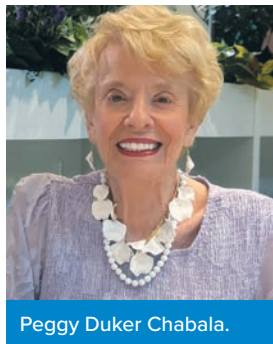
Sewing Projects for Lutheran World Relief

Valparaiso, IN. The \$250 GCU GoGive! grant, enabled the purchase of several bolts of material (cotton and flannel) to be used for various projects. The fabric was used for baby blankets, diapers, and quilts for the less fortunate. Thank you GCU for helping us achieve our goals and helping others through the Lutheran World Relief effort.

Carla Nolting



A Moment in Time



Peggy Duker Chabala.

Editor's Note:

Peggy Duker Chabala was the first GCU Fraternal Director from 1983 until her retirement in 2001. Like many of us in the fraternal industry, Peggy has a special

place in her heart for patriotism and the nation we call home. She wished to share her love of country and a special moment in time with the GCU members she worked with for many years.

Celebrations! A word that conjures many interpretations, feelings, thoughts and rituals will be used excessively throughout the next year. Sometimes we attach a specific incident to an event which makes these jubilees special.

We recently observed events which marked special remembrances. The 250th anniversary parade held on June 14th in Washington DC paid tribute to our US Military Armed Forces with a grandiose display. A parade, to me, always takes precedence. I wish I were at that parade to experience the patriotism I feel every time I hear the National Anthem, any of our patriotic songs, or have the occasion to pay respects to our Military. My heart just swells with pride.

On the heels of that military observance, this year's annual 4th of July tribute kicked off a year's long commemoration marking 250 years of the "Declaration of Independence" of our great country—The United States of America! This Jubilee, which began on July 4, 2025, will conclude on July 4, 2026. What an anniversary this will be! The planning for such an event is colossal with every state, city, town and community having their own special events. The countdown has begun!

I would like to share one special moment from my life where our na-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Gulibon and Burchell United in Marriage

Aaron Thomas Gulibon and Amanda Leigh Burchell were united in marriage on Saturday, June 7, 2025 by Fr. Andriy Kovach at The Manor House at Prophecy Creek in Ambler, PA. Aaron is the son of National Director Lisa Gulibon, and Dr. Thomas Gulibon. Amanda is the daughter of John & Laura Hunsberger. Aaron, a lifelong GCU member and previous recipient of GCU's National and Academic Performance Scholarships, is a CPA and an Audit & Assurance Manager at Deloitte. He is a member of St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church in Mont Clare, PA where Fr. Andriy is the pastor. Amanda is a CPA and a Senior Accounting Analyst at Nucor Corporation. They currently reside in Charlotte, NC.



Amanda and Aaron Gulibon.

Mildred Psak Celebrates Her 100th Birthday

Family and friends gathered on the weekend of May 24 -25, 2025 to celebrate with Mildred Psak on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Mildred (Mid) of GCU Lodge 8344, was a lifelong member of and Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church in Charleroi, PA until recent years when she moved to be closer to her daughters and sons-in-law Joan & Larry DiBarry and Meribeth & Al Peters in the Harrisburg, PA area. Her son David is from Pittsburgh and visits often.

Mid's seven grandchildren (all members of GCU), and three great-grandchildren traveled from Delaware, Connecticut, Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York and Tennessee to celebrate with their "Grammy" along with family members and her friends from the Mon Valley, PA and Harrisburg area.

The festivities continued on Sunday, attending the Divine Liturgy celebrated by Fr. Taras Lovska at St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church in Harrisburg, where Meribeth and Al are members. She was also remembered during the Divine Liturgy celebrated at her home parish by Fr. Stephen Wahal.

Mid was one of the original members of the Mon Valley Choir composed of parishioners of our Byzantine Catho-

lic Churches in Charleroi, Monessen and Donora, PA. At one of the choir concerts, Mid met her husband John "Rusty" Psak. Mid and Rusty were married



Mildred (Mid) Psak.

for 61 years and were active for many years in church functions, members of the Donora Rusyn Club and served as GCU lodge officers and convention delegates.

In later years, Mid worked in the Circulation Department of The Tribune Review and especially enjoyed her time volunteering at the St. Vincent de Paul Store in Monessen with other members of Mon Valley churches. As a close cousin of Mid sharing many good times together over the years, I'm so happy to share the news of this milestone event in our family! Congratulations, Mid!

May God grant you many happy and blessed years, Na Mnohaj!

Dorothy Mayernik (Mid's Cousin)

A Moment in Time...

tion's history intertwined with me personally. My birthday is on December 5, and in 1941, my 7th birthday fell on a Friday. My party was to be celebrated on Sunday, which was December 7. As we were singing "Happy Birthday," sirens began to blare, church bells began to toll, and we all ran out of our houses into the street. Some began to cry, others hugged each other, and many ran to the nearest church. The Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor! At 7 years old, I could not fully process the magnitude of what was going on. The next day, December 8, 1941, we all huddled around the radio as President Franklin Delano Roosevelt belted out in a dirge-like tone, "This Day

Will Live in Infamy." When I read about the war in the history books, it gives me pause, because I experienced the call to World War II in real time.

My mother came from a family of five girls and five boys. All five of my uncles were called to serve their Country in World War II. These men and women went from a deep economic Depression into a World War. These two events would help to shape what was to become, "The Greatest Generation" society ever produced! Both of my brothers also served in the military, as did my husband!

Today, at 90 years old, I cherish the wisdom that I have been afforded. The prism through which I view the future is based on our global stance, and what our Earth may look like for

our children and the generations going forward.

"God Bless America—My Home Sweet Home!"

Peggy Chabala



Correction

In the June issue of the *GCU Magazine*, an error was made in the headline of Dr. George Bagay. His last name was accidentally misspelled. We apologize for the error and wish Dr. Bagay success in his new optometry practice.

Sr. Barbara Swindells Celebrates 70 Years of Religious Life

Jubilees are an opportunity for all of our Sisters to thank God for the gift of their vocations. On Sunday, June 22, we had such an opportunity to celebrate with Sister Barbara Swindells the 70th Anniversary of her religious life.

Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla offered the Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving. In his homily, Archbishop noted that the Gospel was particularly fitting since it was about the call of the Apostles. Like these apostles, Sister Barbara answered the invitation to follow Jesus and did so faithfully over the course of many years.

Sister Barbara Swindells entered the community from St. Mary Church in Chicago, IL. For over 20 years, Sister Barbara's energy was devoted to education from the elementary level through high school, at times serving as principal or assistant principal. Following these years, Sister was involved in a variety of ministries, ranging from Religious Education to administration on the local level and as Provincial Councillor.

Sister Barbara spent many years as manager of Mt. St. Macrina Cemetery. She oversaw the reorganization of vast cemetery documents and had



Sr. Susan Sisko, Sr. Barbara Swindells with Archbishop William C. Skurla.

the foresight to initiate the Cemetery Integrated Management System, a computerized mapping system. Sister directed a further expansion of the cemetery and the renewal of the Bishop's crypt area, while simultaneously caring for the many unseen but meticulous details required of management.

Presently, Sister Barbara schedules the requested Divine Liturgy intentions.

At the festive meal following the Liturgy, Sister Susan thanked Sister Barbara for her fidelity to her vocation and

her life of faithful service. Each Sister also offered her congratulations to the Jubilarian, taking the opportunity to share memories of years gone by. Sister Barbara also shared a few remarks, thanking the Sisters for all they did to make her celebration so joyful.

May God grant to Sister Barbara many spiritually fruitful, blessed, and happy years!

About The Sisters of St. Basil the Great: The Sisters of St. Basil the Great of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Province is a religious order within the Eastern Catholic Church. The Sisters participate in the life of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and they take joy in spreading the message of the Kingdom.

Since 1934, Mount St. Macrina, which was once the estate of coal baron Josiah Van Kirk Thompson, has served as the home for the Sisters following their relocation to Uniontown, PA.

This province is part of the larger Order of St. Basil the Great, which operates in 13 countries. For more information, please visit www.sistersofstbasil.org.

Susan McCarthy



Sisters of St. Basil to Celebrate 91st Annual Pilgrimage



In Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, August 29

6:30 PM Compline & Blessing of Water at Lourdes Grotto

Saturday, August 30

8:30 AM-12 NOON Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions)
Location to be determined

OPENING OF PILGRIMAGE

9:30 AM Third Hour at Shrine Altar

10 AM Procession with Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help to the Shrine Altar and **Divine Liturgy**
Welcome Sister Susan Sisko, OSBM

1-5 PM Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions)
Location to be determined

1 PM Moleben to Theotokos at Shrine Altar

2 PM Children's Pilgrimage at Children's Tent

Orientation for Teens at Prayer Garden

Mystery of Anointing at Shrine Altar

Young Adult Pilgrimage at Lourdes Tent

3 PM Teen Pilgrimage at Prayer Garden

4 PM Vespers with **Divine Liturgy** at Shrine Altar

7:30 PM Procession to Cemetery / Parastas
Teen Social after Parastas

Sunday, August 31

7:30 AM Matins at Shrine Altar

8 AM-12 NOON Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions)
Location to be determined

9 AM Divine Liturgy Slavonic at Shrine Altar

11 AM Divine Liturgy for Vocations Shrine Altar

12 NOON-5 PM Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions)
Location to be determined

1 PM Children's Procession with Special Blessing for Youth & Young Adults-from Lourdes Grotto to the Shrine Altar

2 PM Enrichment Session at Trinity Center

Bereavement Session at Mausoleum

Children's Pilgrimage at Children's Tent

Teen Pilgrimage at Prayer Garden

Young Adult Pilgrimage at Lourdes Tent

2 PM Mystery of Anointing at Shrine Altar

3:45 PM Procession to Shrine Altar

4 PM Divine Liturgy at Shrine Altar
Words of Gratitude: Sister Susan Sisko, O.S.B.M.

7:30 PM Candlelight Procession
(beginning and ending at the Shrine Altar)

CLOSING OF THE PILGRIMAGE

Following the Candlelight Procession:

Teen Social at Prayer Garden Area

Young Adult Gathering at Lourdes Tent

Monday, September 1

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy at Shrine Altar

Please Note: Curfew is 11 PM.
Although casual attire is acceptable, Pilgrims are asked to be mindful of the religious nature of services and activities and to dress appropriately. Thank You

Mt. St. Macrina
500 West Main Street
Uniontown, PA 15401
724-438-8644

www.sistersofstbasil.org

Follow us on Facebook for updates.

Holy Annunciation Monastery Sugarloaf, PA



Group photo at Helping Hands Day 2025 Sugarloaf, PA.

After rescheduling Helping Hands Day in Sugarloaf, PA due to inclement weather, our rain-date was also pretty rainy. A few dedicated volunteers still came out to help with inside activities at Holy Annunciation Monastery. Mother Maria referred to our scheduled date as a blessing, due to the fact that one of the horses gave birth the morning GCU was there. Sister Christina explained that normally they would be in church in the morning, but being that GCU was there that

particular morning, they were able to catch the birth of the newest horse on the farm. The baby horse required assistance while being birthed, so they were very happy to have been on hand. Mid-Morning Miracle was the very fitting name that Mother Maria selected for the baby horse. Our few volunteers being there that morning made quite the difference! Thank you to all volunteers and we are hoping for better weather for our Fall 2025 Helping Hands Day, scheduled for Saturday, October 18. Optional Mass at 8 AM with work to begin at 9 AM.



Mt. Saint Macrina

Uniontown, PA



Group photo at Helping Hands Day 2025 in Uniontown.

On Saturday, June 7, 2025 GCU members in the Southwestern Pennsylvania area, along with parishioners from local Byzantine Catholic churches joined together to assist the Sisters of St. Basil in Uniontown, PA. The volunteers came together for Helping Hands Day at Mt. St. Macrina to beautify the grounds of the monastery.

The day was under the direction of Sr. Joanne Lickvar. There was plenty to accomplish. Debris from the winter needed to be cleaned up at the shrines and light lunch

area. Other volunteers planted flowers in the numerous flower beds spread across the property. Preparation of the grounds for the pilgrims who will attend the annual Pilgrimage over Labor Day weekend is a major undertaking and cannot be accomplished by the Sisters on their own.

If you would like to volunteer to assist the Sisters with Pilgrimage preparations you can contact them at 724-438-8644. A complete schedule of this year's Pilgrimage events appears on page 17 of this issue.



Corporate Community Events Coordinators

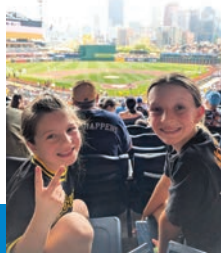


Casey Bush
Corporate Community
Events Coordinator
Western PA



Dia and Brielle Lang.

Pirate Game - Kids Day. GCU had a great time kicking off summer with our first Pittsburgh Pirate game of the season! Over 40 members attended the June 29th game. What an exciting game for the home fans with the Pirates defeating the New York Met 12-1. Lots of cheers, lots of laughs and we even got to high-five our favorite Pierogie - Jalapeno Hannah!



Isabella D'Alessandro, Lexi Fluharty and Enzo D'Alessandro.



Elizabeth Harbist holding grandson Alex and Katey Mikus holding nephew Nicholas.



Franko Family at the Ballgame.



Upcoming Events

Pittsburgh Pirate Game Firework Extravaganza Night

Pirates vs Colorado Rockies (Section 127)
Friday, August 22 6:40 PM
PNC Park, Pittsburgh, PA

Project Bundle-Up Volunteer Opportunity

Saturday, October 18 7:30 AM
Kohl's, Monaca, PA

Pittsburgh Steelers Game

Steelers vs Cincinnati Bengals
Sunday, November 16 1 PM
Section 518

Acrisure Stadium, Pittsburgh, PA

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

December Date TBD
Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center
Midland, PA

Broadway Musical "Wicked"

Saturday, January, 2026 7:30 PM
Rows M, N & O
Benedum Center, Pittsburgh, PA

*Dates and times are subject to change.
Visit GCUusa.com for more information
on these events*

*or contact Casey Bush at
cbush@GCUusa.com or call 724-683-3927.*

American Red Cross Blood Drive. Tuesday. July 15, 2025 GCU members and Home Office staff did their part in donating blood to the American Red Cross. We had a great turnout of GCU & Seven Oaks members all coming together for a wonderful cause. Thank you to everyone who came out to donate!



Ryan Kislock and Bryan O'Shaughnessy from the Home Office rolled up their sleeves to donate blood at Seven Oaks.



Melissa Jaggars
Corporate Community
Events Coordinator
Eastern PA,
NY, NJ, MD, MA, CT, DE, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL



Ronald & Michaela Mancak, Cori Rhodes and Joshua Mancak explored Jim Thorpe "Switzerland of America" on July 12.

Celebrating Summer & Looking Ahead: GCU Events That Bring Us Together. As I'm writing part of me feels like there is plenty of summer fun left to enjoy! (Like our Family Fun Day at Lahey Family Fun Park coming up on Saturday, August 23rd).

The other half of me realized that by the time you are reading this, there will be just a few weeks left of summer before we start to transition to our fall activities – can you believe it?

As summer begins to wind down, I find myself reflecting on the great events we've shared so far — and believe it or not, already thinking ahead to winter!

Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders Ballgame. We kicked off the summer season returning for the

fourth year in a row as the **Featured Community Organization of the Game** for the **Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders**. It was a fantastic way to kick off Father's Day Weekend (my brother even flew in from Florida and surprised my dad at the game - talk about an unbeatable Father's Day gift!). I had the opportunity to give an on-the-field interview to discuss the wonderful things GCU represents, and of course watching the future Yankees in action was a thrill. Handing out our **signature Hawaiian leis** at the GCU table once again brought smiles to countless fans. It's a tradition we love, and one I'm proud to continue.



Constellation Coordinator Laure Marcin and Corporate Community Events Coordinator Melissa Jaggars.

Holupki Open Golf Tournament. We continued the fun at the 47th Annual Joseph Durkay Memorial **Holupki Open Golf Tournament** — a day filled with fun and plenty of good-natured rivalry (multiple tie-breakers and close scores across the board!) See the complete report on page 48.

GCU Byzantine Day at Knoebels. Despite the intense heat to start the day followed by rainy skies in the after-



Upcoming Events

National Park Cleanup Day

Saturday, September 20

We would love to see several cleanup efforts over the weekend - GCU will sponsor lunch afterwards!

Bloomsburg Fair Bus Trip & Demolition Derby Championship

Saturday, September 27
Bloomsburg, PA

Various Veterans Day Breakfast Buffets

Saturday or Sunday, November 8 or 9

We invite you to come celebrate the men & women who served our country at one of the delicious breakfast events to honor our vets!

Bethlehem Christkindl Market & Miracle on 34th Street Show

Saturday, December 13
Wind Creek Casino, Bethlehem, PA

2026 Sight & Sound Trips: "Joshua"

Overnight Trip: Early Mother's Day Celebration
Friday, May 8 - Saturday, May 9
Day trips in June will also be available.
(Lancaster) Ronks, PA

Tickets to ALL events must be purchased in advance.

Visit GCUusa.com for more information on all these events or contact Melissa Jaggars at mjaggars@GCUusa.com or call 878-207-2327.



Enjoying lunch at Knoebels Park.

noon, our GCU Byzantine Day at **Knoebels** brought out the sunshine in our members' hearts. Ponchos and umbrellas couldn't stop the fun. See the complete report on the next page.

Volunteer Days for National Clean a Park Day. Looking ahead, I'm thrilled about our upcoming **volunteer days for National Clean a Park Day** — a wonderful way to give back to the communities we live in and care for the spaces that bring us together. GCU has always valued service, and it's always incredible to see our members step up time and time again. We have a few clean a park events scheduled, but if there isn't one in your area I still encour-

CONTINUED

age you to team up with a friend and clean a park together! Even if it's just an hour of your time it can make a great difference. If you do journey out and clean a park in your area, please send over a photo so we can shout you out in the next *GCU Magazine*! (mjaggars@GCUusa.com)

Looking Ahead. Fall promises even more fun with outings to pumpkin patches and fall farms, such as the popular **Roba Farms** (*and more to be announced*) and the always-popular **Bloomsburg Fair** (*a new adventure for GCU*). I also look forward to honoring the brave men and women who have served our country at our **Veterans Day Breakfast events in Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Philadelphia & NJ**.

If you are located in the eastern half of PA or one of our membership states on the east coast, I invite members to share their local ideas for recognizing veterans — please reach out to me by **September 5th**. Whether it's a small-town celebration or a heartfelt community service project, GCU is committed to honoring our heroes in meaningful ways.

And yes — **I can't believe I'm already talking about winter**, but here we are! Some of our seasonal favorites are already in the works. The popular **Scranton/Wilkes-Barre**

Penguins game will return. (Is there a hockey team in your back yard within our eastern membership states that you want to see? Reach out and let me know!)

Even more exciting is our upcoming **trip to the Christkindlmarkt in Bethlehem, PA** — one of the most magical holiday markets in the country. This year's trip will be extra special, as we'll also be taking in a festive performance of **"Miracle on 34th Street"** at Wind Creek Casino. It's the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season, and I can't wait to experience it with all of you. NJ Constellation Coordinator Cynthia Visovsky and I are working to put this trip together. I welcome those within driving distance to contact me if interested in a show only ticket so we can contact you when tickets go on sale! We are also looking at putting together a day trip from NERA in November. Feel free to contact me to get on our early interest list!

Whether our events or volunteer activities are cherished traditions or brand-new adventures, I look forward to the next GCU event or social activity to come. The best part about our events and community activities is getting to see our members smile and enjoy themselves. It certainly puts a smile on my face too! I hope to see your smiling faces at an event or volunteer activity very soon!

GCU Byzantine Family Day at Knoebels Park



Elysburg, PA. Sunshine, sizzling temperatures, and a sudden downpour couldn't dampen the spirit of community at this year's GCU Byzantine Family Day, held at the beloved Knoebels Amusement Resort in central Pennsylvania. Knoebels bills itself as America's largest free admission amusement park.

The day kicked off with excitement as families and friends from across the region gathered for a full day of fun, faith and fellowship. Despite the brutal summer heat, attendees cooled off under the shaded pavilion, where a delicious BBQ lunch was served, along with refreshing drinks and plenty of conversation. The excitement continued with our raffle drawings, where lucky winners took home ticket booklets, all-day ride passes and 50/50 cash winnings.

The rides were a major hit with kids and adults alike, offering thrills, smiles and shared laughter at every turn. As the afternoon rolled on, the skies opened up with a surprise downpour of rain — but even that couldn't wash away the fun. Guests took shelter, made the best of it and embraced the change in weather with umbrellas and ponchos.

Through sunshine, rain and everything in between, GCU Byzantine Family Day once again reminded us how special it is to gather in faith, fun and fellowship.

Here's to more memories, more rides, and gathering with new and familiar faces for more fun next year!



Constellations



Shown is the group of members and guests who attended the Pittsburgh & Beaver Constellations' Seneca Niagara Casino Bus Trip. The trip was held on June 16 & 17 and had two pickup & drop off locations to offer convenience. The group had a great time both in and out of the Casino.

UPCOMING BEAVER CONSTELLATION EVENT

Annual Golf Outing

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Shotgun Start 12:30 PM

4 Person Scramble Format

\$80 Members

\$95 Non-Members

\$50 Junior Members (age 16 & younger)

\$60 Junior Non-Members (age 16 & younger)

Buffet Dinner Only \$45

Seven Oaks Country Club

132 Lisbon Road, Beaver, PA 15009

Contact: Elizabeth Harbist at 412-913-1446 or eharbist@gmail.com for questions.

Register at GCUusa.com under Events (October) and pay with a credit or debit card.



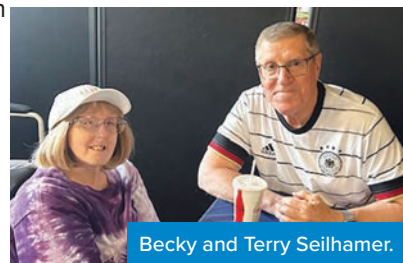
Terry, Todd & Tate Hodila.

Butler/North Pittsburgh Constellation

Fun Fore All Family Fun Park Outing

On Saturday, June 21, constellation members enjoyed lunch and all the things that the venue has to offer. Fun Fore All is a Family Fun Center with mini golf, go-cart racing, amusement rides, arcade games and duckpin bowling. All in attendance enjoyed an afternoon of fun.

Casey Bajack | Butler/Pittsburgh
Constellation Coordinator



Becky and Terry Seilhamer.



Tom Kutcher holding Tommy with Jordan Banks playing the arcade game. At right is Terry Hodila in the go-cart.



UPCOMING BUTLER/NORTH PITTSBURGH CONSTELLATION EVENT

Family Fun at Iron Mills Farmstead

Sunday, October 5, 2025

10 AM - 7 PM

The GCU will provide a pavilion for lunch

\$25 Members

\$40 Non-Members

Iron Mills Farmstead

252 Greenfield Road, New Wilmington, PA 16142

Contact: Casey Bajack at 412-445-5473 or cbajack@GCUusa.com for questions.

Register at GCUusa.com under Events (October) and pay with a credit or debit card.

UPCOMING HAZLETON CONSTELLATION EVENT

National Clean A Park Day

Saturday, September 20, 2025

10:30 AM

Hazle Township Community Park
37 Pecora Blvd.
Hazleton, PA 18202

Help clean up the park & lunch is on us! RSVP by September 10, 2025

Contact: Kevin Yurkanin at 570-956-4517 or tyurkanin@GCUusa.com

Fall Helping Hands Day & Lunch

Saturday, October 18, 2025

8 AM Optional Mass

9 AM Work Begins

12 NOON Lunch

Holy Annunciation Monastery
403 W. County Road
Sugarloaf, PA 18249

All ages & abilities are welcome-indoor & outdoor work is available

Contact: Kevin Yurkanin at 570-956-4517 or tyurkanin@GCUusa.com

St. Nicholas Day Celebration

Sunday, December 7, 2025

1 PM

\$15 Members

\$25 Non-Members

Capriotti's Catering
One Bank Avenue
McAdoo, PA 18237

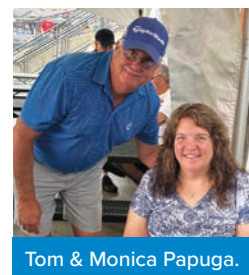
Contact: Kevin Yurkanin at 570-956-4517 or tyurkanin@GCUusa.com

Laurel Highlands Constellation

Altoona Curve Game

On June 14, 2025, the Laurel Highlands Constellation attended the Altoona Curve Game.

Members and guests enjoyed a 2-hour buffet and the baseball game. The weather did not cooperate as it rained—delaying the start of the game until 7:45 pm.



Tom & Monica Papuga.

Beach Party Boys Concert

On Saturday, July 26, 2025, GCU members and guests attended Arcadia Theater in Windber PA for the - Beach Party Boys. The group's California Summer Sun concert provided a fun evening of surfing, car and love songs from the 60's & 70's.



Tom, Dylan & Nova Lehman with her friend Peyton.



Margaret (Patty) Webb. Tom & Dylan Lehman and Paulette Grove.

Gateway Clipper Lunch Cruise

On Saturday, August 9, 2025, GCU members and guests set sail aboard the Pittsburgh Gateway Clipper Lunch Cruise. A report and

photos will appear in the October Magazine.

Check Presentation

Constellation Coordinator Georgia Lehman presented a check to the Johnstown Rec Cheer team for \$2,000.⁰⁰ as a GCU Community Matching Funds project. The girls held a basket party to raise funds for the 2025-26 competition season which was sponsored by the Constellation. In total, with Matching Funds, the team raised over \$7,000.⁰⁰. Thank you to the GCU for making these Matching Funds available.

Georgia Lehman | Laurel Highlands Constellation Coordinator



Constellation Coordinator Georgia Lehman hands Matching Funds check to Nova Lehman.

New Jersey Constellation

Trenton Thunder Faith and Family Night

It was a great night for a baseball game! The ballpark was filled on Saturday, July 19 and the weather cooperated by being much cooler and cloudy. The GCU New Jersey Constellation members and friends watched the game from their fantastic seats behind home plate. The night ended with a loss, but the beautiful fireworks show that lite up the sky after the game, made the loss a little less painful.



Michael & John Kashner.

Trenton Area Soup Kitchen

On Thursday, July 24, Constellation members and friends gathered to help cook and serve food to the homeless and anyone who was in need of a warm meal. The volunteers witnessed the struggles the homeless face first hand. This act of kindness was appreciated and definitely seen on the faces of the men and women we encountered. Our afternoon shift ended with a wonderful dinner for the volunteers at a NJ diner—the food was great and so was the conversation. We felt good knowing we made a small difference in lives of those we served.



Front: John Kashner, Michael Kashner and Stephanie Hennessey. Back: Rick & Cyndi Visovsky.

Cynthia Visovsky | New Jersey Constellation Coordinator

UPCOMING NEW JERSEY CONSTELLATION EVENTS

Laurita Winery VIP Experience Food Truck Festival Social

Sunday, August 24, 2025

\$10 Member

\$20 Non-Member

Laurita Winery
85 Archertown Road, New Egypt, NJ 08533

It's luau weekend at the winery! VIP seating, fire pit, outdoor bar, live music and food trucks.

Register at [GCUusa.com Events \(August\)](https://www.gcuusa.com/events) and pay with a credit or debit card.

National Park Cleanup Day Volunteer Activity

Saturday, September 20, 2025

10 AM

RSVP by Tuesday, September 16

Mercer County Park
1638 Old Trenton Road
W. Windsor Township, NJ 08550

Call Cynthia Visovsky 609-356-9440 or
cvisovsky@GCUusa.com

Veterans Day Event

Date to be Announced

Contact Cynthia Visovsky 609-356-9440 or
cvisovsky@GCUusa.com to be put on the interest list or for more information.

UPCOMING NORTHEAST OHIO CONSTELLATION EVENTS

Walk to End Lupus

Saturday, September 6, 2025

Start time 10 AM

\$20 Member & Non-Member

1055 Old River Road
East Bank of the Flats
Cleveland, OH

Contact: Dean Scouloukas at 216-421-6207 or
dscouloukas@GCUusa.com

Register at GCUusa.com Events (September) and
pay with a credit or debit card.

Cleveland Browns vs Miami Dolphins Football Game

Sunday, October 19, 2025

1 PM

\$115 Member

\$131 Non-Member

Huntington Bank Field
100 Alfred Lerner Way
Cleveland, OH 44114

Contact: Dean Scouloukas at 216-421-6207 or
dscouloukas@GCUusa.com

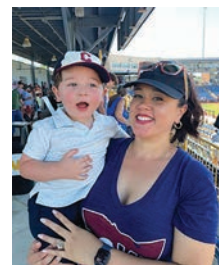
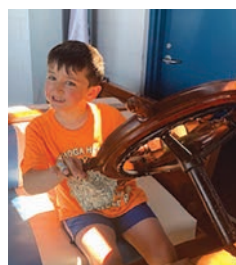
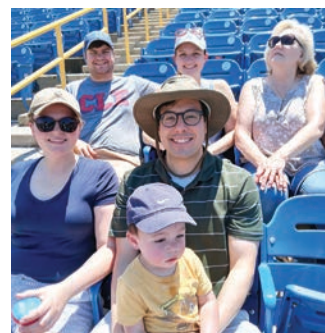
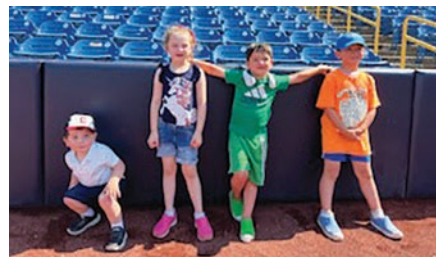
Register at GCUusa.com Events (October) and pay
with a credit or debit card.

Northeast Ohio Constellation

Lake County Captains Baseball Game

GCU Day at the Lake County Captains minor league baseball game was Sunday, June 29 at Classic Park in Eastlake, OH. Basking in the beautiful 85 degree sunshine, 24 members and guests enjoyed an entertaining game that concluded with the Captains falling to the West Michigan Whitecaps by a score of 10-8. It was also a Family Fun Day, so the kids got to run the bases after the game. This was the third consecutive year that the Northeast Ohio Constellation has hosted the event!

Dean Scouloukas | Northeast Ohio
Constellation Coordinator



Philadelphia Constellation



Jade Frankenfield, Kayla Batchelor, Jordan Frankenfield with Constellation Coordinator Stephen Bachovin.



The American Treasure Tour Museum

The American Treasure Tour Museum in Oaks, PA, offers a delightfully eccentric journey through decades of American pop culture - and GCU members got to enjoy a great discount on the very popular tram tour.

GCU members began the tour in the Music Room, surrounded by vintage Wurlitzers, self-playing instruments and nostalgic memorabilia. The highlight was a 40-minute tram ride through the sprawling "Toy Box," showcasing towering Gumby statues, neon signs, classic cars, animatronic bands and even a castle made of Popsicle sticks. Overflowing with quirky charm and fascinating artifacts, the museum is a lively, immersive celebration of Americana that delights guests of all ages.

Stephen Bachovin | Philadelphia Constellation Coordinator



One of the many unique displays at the American Treasure Museum.

UPCOMING PHILADELPHIA CONSTELLATION EVENTS

National Park Cleanup Day

Saturday, September 20, 2025

10:30 AM

RSVP by Tuesday, September 16

Fisher Park

571 W Spencer Street, Philadelphia, PA 19120

Contact: Stephen Bachovin at 215-370-1757 or sbachovin@GCUusa.com for more information.

Philadelphia Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 27, 2025

\$75 Member / \$300 Member Foursome

\$90 Non-Member / \$360 Non-Member Foursome

Includes: green fees, cart, grab-n-go lunch, meal following tournament, door prizes and prizes for golf winners.

Contact: Stephen Bachovin at 215-370-1757 or sbachovin@GCUusa.com for more information.

Register at GCUusa.com Events (September) and pay with a credit or debit card.

Veterans Day Appreciation Breakfast

Saturday, November 8, 2025

10 AM

\$4 Veterans

\$6 Member

\$12.99 Non-Member

Golden Corral

1465 Street Road, Bensalem, PA 19020

Contact: Stephen Bachovin at 215-370-1757 or sbachovin@GCUusa.com

Register at GCUusa.com Events (November) and pay with a credit or debit card.

UPCOMING PITTSBURGH CONSTELLATION EVENT

Mini Golf Event

Sunday, September 7, 2025

2-4 PM

\$5 Members

\$6 Non- Members

Deadline is Tuesday, September 2

Enjoy an afternoon of mini golf, lunch, prizes & fun!

Family Funscape

7350 Hutchinson Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037

Contact: Kim Kolesar at 412-999-5714 or kkolesar@GCUusa.com for more information.

Register at GCUusa.com Events (September) and pay with a credit or debit card.



Group at patriotic ceremony outside Whitehall Borough building.

Pittsburgh Constellation

Patriotic Ceremony and Kennywood Park Speaker

On Wednesday, June 4, 2025, GCU members and guests met at the flagpole outside the Whitehall Borough building for a patriotic ceremony honoring both Flag Day as well as those in the military who gave their lives.

Whitehall Borough Mayor James Nowalk joined in the ceremony

and gave a brief speech. Following the ceremony, everyone was invited inside the Whitehall Borough community room for a summer buffet dinner. While we were eating, we also played "Stump the Mayor." We could ask any mayoral question and the Mayor would answer. This game was also played with the Kennywood Park speaker. If you asked a question, you received a number. At the end of the evening,

numbers were selected and those people chosen won a patriotic gift. Andy Quinn, retired Kennywood part-owner, gave a wonderful slide show presentation on the history of Kennywood Park. The information was so interesting, and it was fun to see photos from the past.

Kim Kolesar | Pittsburgh Constellation Coordinator



Group enjoying buffet while listening to speaker.



Karen Pavlick, Andy Quinn-retired Kennywood part owner and Forest Sears.



Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Constellation



Patrons enjoying the Hawaiian style leis available at the GCU information table.

RailRiders Baseball Game

Friday, June 13, 2025 we kicked off Father's Day Weekend enjoying America's favorite pastime at the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders game. GCU was the featured community organization of the game at PNC Field.

For those who may not know, the RailRiders are the Triple-A affiliate of the

New York Yankees, so it's not uncommon to spot a familiar face from the Yankees (for example: an injured player from the Yankees plays a couple of games on the Triple-A affiliate level) or you just may be watching a future next big name Yankee!

This year, GCU went all out. The GCU was featured during the game and honored with a pregame interview with Corporate Community Events Coordinator Melissa Jaggars on the field. She shared what the GCU has to offer, we also had a welcome table at the stadium where Melissa and I gave out colorful Hawaiian leis and GCU info. Giving out Hawaiian leis at our GCU table is becoming our tradition (having done this event 4 years in a row) and everyone loved stopping by to say hello and take a leis with them – even RailRiders staff!

GCU members could purchase regular tickets for just **\$5**, making it affordable for entire families to join in on the fun. And for those looking to elevate their experience, we even offered **exclusive suite seating** complete with a **full buffet**—a perfect

way to enjoy the game in comfort and style.

The RailRiders put on a great show, and after the final pitch, the night ended with a **spectacular fireworks display** that lit up the sky. It was the perfect end to a perfect night to kick off Father's

Day weekend and celebrate GCU with another fun event!

Laure Marcin | Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Constellation Coordinator



The GCU table had a lot of interest at the game.

UPCOMING SCRANTON/WILKES-BARRE CONSTELLATION EVENTS

End of Summer Golf Tournament

Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 1:30 PM

\$40 Member / \$160 Member Foursome

\$65 Non-Member / \$260 Non-Member Foursome

Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club

260 Country Club Drive, Mountain Top, PA 18707

Contact: Laure Marcin at 570-466-5941 or lmarcin@GCUusa.com

Roba Farm Social or Discounted Passes

Saturday, October 4, 2025

\$12 Member

\$24.95 Non-Member

Firepits reserved for GCU! Live entertainment + 30 attractions and glowing pumpkin trail after sunset **OR** visit during the month of October with a GCU member discounted rate.

Roba Family Farms

200 Cranston Avenue,
North Abington Township, PA 18414

Contact: Laure Marcin at 570-466-5941 or lmarcin@GCUusa.com

Neil Diamond Tribute Concert Starring Robert Neary

Sunday, October 26, 2025 at 2 PM

\$35 Member

\$49.50 Non-Member

The Theater at North

1539 North Main Avenue, Scranton, PA 18508

Contact: Laure Marcin at 570-466-5941 or lmarcin@GCUusa.com

Veterans Day Breakfast Buffets

Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 10 AM

\$10 Veterans \$16 Member \$21 Non-Member

Trolley's Bistro (inside the Scranton Hilton)
100 Adams Ave., Scranton, PA 18503

Sunday, November 9, 2025 at 11:30 AM

\$10 Veterans \$18 Member \$24.99 Non-Member

\$5 Kids Member 4-12 \$9.99 Kids Non-Member
ages 3 and under are free

The Hive Taphouse (inside Mohegan Sun)
1280 PA-315, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Contact: Laure Marcin at 570-466-5941 or lmarcin@GCUusa.com

Parish Matching Funds

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

PERTH AMBOY, NJ

Family Day 2025

The Family Luncheon at St. Nicholas parish was a beautiful celebration of gratitude and joy! After the Liturgy on Sunday, May 18, the children who completed this year's ESF program shared songs, a dance and big smiles as a heartfelt gift to their parents.



Anniversaries Celebrated

On Sunday, June 22, St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church celebrated its 90th Anniversary as a Faith Community and 75th Anniversary as a Parish. His Excellency, Most Reverend Kurt Burnette celebrated the Liturgy with many clergy throughout New Jersey attending. Both events were parish fundraisers that received GCU Parish Matching Funds.

Lisa Rebovich |
Byzantine Parish
Coordinator



GCU Matching Funds check presentation to Fr. Vasyl Remitskyi by St. Nicholas Church trustee Kurt Rebovich.

St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

HOUSTON, TX

Check Presentation

On June 8, 2025, St. John Chrysostom Parish received Matching Funds from the GCU for their annual Easter Paska Baking Fundraiser. Present in the photo are Ruthanne Picos, Fr. Tom Wells, Byzantine Parish Coordinator Theresa Dancsak and organizer of the event Maria Streitman. Over \$800.00 was raised this year and funds were matched by the GCU. Thank you GCU for your support.

Theresa Dancsak | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

WEIRTON, WV

Pirohi & Paska Sale

On Saturday, April 12, the parish held a pirohi and paska sale fundraiser. We would like to thank the dedicated volunteers who helped make the items and those who purchased them. We saw a profit of nearly \$4,000.⁰⁰ and received additional income from the GCU Parish Matching Funds program.

Marilyn Charnie | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Janet Winwood.



Nancy Garan, Maureen Dumbaugh, Gloria Suchko, Mary Murray and Shirley Washam baking paska.

Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church

PITTSBURGH (OAKLAND), PA

Flea Market & Food Sale

Holy Spirit welcomed the local community on Saturday, May 31 as they searched for treasures at the parish's Spring Flea Market! Visitors could also enjoy lunch and bake sale

items to dine in or take out. Many thanks to the GCU for Parish Matching Funds for this fundraising activity!

Mary Dzurichko | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Parish Coordinator Ann Kachmar (at right) presents GCU Matching Funds check from the Tag Sale to Deacon Mike Sivulich while Fr. Khorramshahr looks on.

St. Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church

WHITE PLAINS, NY

Church Tag Sale

A Tag Sale was held on Friday & Saturday, June 13-14, unfortunately it rained both days. With tents and trees to help shield participants from the rain the sale

was still a success. Thanks to the GCU for the additional income through the Parish Matching Funds grant.

Ann Kachmar | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Tag Sale Staff: Ann Kachmar, Pat Sivulich, Debbie McDonnell, Karen Valko and Deacon Mike Sivulich.



GCU Matching Funds check presentation to Fr. Wesley Mash by Lois Anderchin and BPC Janet Petro.

St. Anne Byzantine Catholic Church CLYMER, PA

Clymer Community Yard Sale

St. Anne Church participated in the Clymer Community Yard Sale on July 17-19. Used household goods, baked goods and a basket raffle were all available. Weather was great and the church sponsored events enjoyed a good turnout of shoppers. Thank you to the GCU Parish Matching Funds program for the additional income.

Janet Petro | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Our Lady of Wisdom Byzantine Catholic Church LAS VEGAS, NV



GCU Matching Funds check from parish debate fundraiser is presented to Fr. Nathan Symeon Adams by GCU Parish Coordinator Robert Rosales.

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church HERMINIE, PA

Lenten Fundraisers

The Church Ladies made potato pancakes and pirohi for Lent as a parish fundraiser. They also held a haluski, pirohi and baked goods sale during Lent. Both events benefited from the GCU Parish Matching Funds program.

Michael Pochan | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. Anne Byzantine Catholic Church

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA

Pascha Bread Baking

On Thursday, April 3, a dozen ambitious parishioners young and old helped to make beautiful, traditional paska bread. We baked 45 loaves at the all day event. At a later date folks picked up their pre-purchased loaves and sausages (made last year) for their Easter baskets. The paschal food sale also received GCU Parish Matching Funds.



Christina Aguirre | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. Basil the Great Byzantine Catholic Church

STERLING HEIGHTS, MI

Easter Fundraising Events

Beginning in March, parishioners started fundraising events - pirohi sales, paska sales, Palm Sunday breakfast and raffle. All ingredients were donated which increased profit from these events. Thanks to the GCU Parish Matching Funds program for matching the fundraising income from these activities.

Anita Cipa | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church ENDICOTT, NY

Check Presentation

On May 29, 2025, a check for \$869.00 was presented to Very Rev. Steven Galuschik. The funds were raised from the 1st Can and Bottle Drive of the year, held in April. We are grateful to GCU for their continued parish support through the Matching Funds Program.



Check presented to Very Rev. Steven Galuschik by volunteers from the Can and Bottle Drive #1.

Can & Bottle Drive #2

Ss. Peter and Paul Church held the second of their 2025 Can & Bottle Drives on Saturday, July 12. Cans, bottles, glass, plastics, fun and teamwork were all part of the day.

A big Thank You to everyone from the parish and community who dropped by with bagged or boxed empties. As a result of everyone's generosity, hard work and kindness, a total of \$831.00 was raised.

A sincere THANK YOU to everyone who continues to organize the bottle drives and those who tirelessly help to make the project a tremendous success. Thank You GCU, for approving our request

for Parish Matching Funds for this second drive.

Daria Shierly |
Byzantine Parish
Coordinator



Janet & Sarah Kumpon.



Mary Ann Cipar.



Vicky Dennis.



Joanne Dudinyak.



Marilyn Kumpon.

St. Andrew Byzantine Catholic Church WESTBURY, NY

Akathist Service

An Akathist Service was celebrated on Saturday, July 26 in honor of St. Panteleimon the great Healer. Individuals from both St. Andrew Parish and Our Lady of Hope, a sister Roman Catholic Parish, submitted names of individuals for healing; spiritual, emotional and physical. The 127 names submitted were read at the beginning of the Akathist Service. This event raised \$3,175.00 for St. Andrew Parish. Vials of oils were blessed with the relic of St. Panteleimon, and distributed to all. At the end of the Akathist, all individuals were

blessed with the relic of this holy saint. Thanks to the GCU Parish Matching Funds program for adding to the success of this event.

Margaret Russell | Byzantine Parish Coordinator





Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church MINERSVILLE, PA

Chicken Dinner

Volunteers prepared a chicken dinner for parishioners and the local community on Sunday, May 4, 2025. Men also delivered the dinners to shut-ins of the parish and sister parish, St. Mary in St. Clair, PA. Parishioners are so grateful to GCU for their continued support of our parish and the GCU Parish Matching Funds program!

Dolores Kramer | Byzantine Parish Coordinator

Ss. Peter & Paul volunteers present the GCU Matching Funds check to the Very Reverend Gregory J. Noga.



St. John Byzantine Catholic Church POTTSTOWN, PA

Annual Easter Bake 2025

St. John the Baptist Church had its

Annual Easter Bake. Volunteers made over 800 nut, apricot and raspberry rolls. We appreciated all the help we had over the 3 baking days. It is good to get together as a community to serve our Church and get to know one another. The photos show many aspects of the roll making process. We thank the GCU for their additional support for through the Parish Matching Funds program.

Alex Riebe | Byzantine Parish Coordinator





GCU Matching Funds check presentation to Fr. Nate Tapsack from Greg & Teresa Kennis.

Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church

SYKESVILLE, PA

Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser

An 18 hole benefit golf tournament was held on Sunday, July 20, 2025 at Kenterra Golf Course in DuBois, PA to raise funds for the kitchen remodeling project and for youth activities/events at Holy Trinity Church. The event included golf, skills on each hole, putting contest, Vegas hole challenge, lottery hole competition, 50/50 drawing, silent basket auction



along with a drawing for a Blackstone

BBQ grill. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places along with skills and skins were awarded after enjoying a delicious buffet dinner. Thanks to GCU for the additional income through the Parish Matching Funds program.

Teresa Kennis | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



GCU Supported Parish Events

St. John Byzantine Catholic Church SCRANTON, PA



Sylvia Rusnock— 90th Birthday Party

We surprised Sylvia Rusnock for her 90th birthday on Sunday, June 1 with a cake and refreshments after Divine Liturgy. Sylvia is responsible for the parish's pierogi project.

Feast Day of St. John the Baptist

On June 22, pizza and light refreshments were served following the Divine Liturgy on the feast of St John the Baptist. Both of these events received funding from the GCU Parish Social Grant program.

Karen Duricko | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Patronage Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church BALTIMORE, MD

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

An Easter Egg hunt was held on St. Thomas Sunday after Divine Liturgy and the church dinner. ECF students enjoyed searching for eggs scattered around the church property. We appreciate the generosity of the GCU Parish Social Grant for providing the candy for this event. Very Rev. Vasyl Symyon is the parish administrator.



2nd Annual Picnic

Very Rev. Vasyl Symyon welcomed everyone to the church's 2nd Annual Picnic on Sunday, June 29. We began with Divine Liturgy followed by lots of food and games for children and adults. The GCU Social Grant provided a candy filled patriotic piñata, popsicles, and some giveaways for everyone who attended.

4th of July Celebration

Patronage Parish celebrated Independence Day, after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, July 6, with parishioners enjoying a decorated red velvet cake provided by the GCU Social Grant. Very Rev. Vasyl Symyon gathered the children together for a group picture to mark the occasion of our country's birthday! Thank you to the GCU for helping us to celebrate all of these events!

Dennis Kotula | Byzantine Parish Coordinator





Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church ANAHEIM, CA

Eastern Christian Formation End of Year Lunch & Prosphora Baking Lesson

At the end of Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church's Eastern Christian Formation school year, 20 students and their parents met in the parish hall on Saturday, May 31 to learn to make the prosphora bread—the bread used during the Divine Liturgy. After the all-morning lesson, the children and their parents enjoyed a lunch provided by the generous funding of the GCU Parish Social Grant.



Deacon Gregory Gath | Byzantine Parish Coordinator

Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA

Ladies Potluck Social

The ladies had a potluck social gathering on Wednesday, May 21. Everyone enjoyed their time of fellowship and discussed planting flowers at the church and the upcoming church festival.

Donut Sunday

On Sunday, June 1, members of our parish enjoyed donuts and coffee after Liturgy. A great time was had by all.

Both activities received funding from the GCU Parish Social Grant.

Julie Brocious | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church CONEMAUGH, PA

Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

The monthly social hour sponsored by GCU was held on Sunday, July 13 to celebrate July birthdays and anniversaries of parish members.

Upcoming Event

On September 7, 2025, the St. Ann's Guild of the parish will hold their Annual Basket Party. For information you can contact Georgia Lehman at 814-242-2083.

Georgia Lehman | Byzantine Parish Coordinator

St. Anne Byzantine Catholic Church

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA

Pascha Baking Day Luncheon

On Thursday, April 3, bean soup was made in a crock pot to serve our paska bread bakers.

Parish Pizza Work Party

A deep cleaning of all the areas of the church inside and outside was done on Saturday, April 5. Those who volunteered that day relaxed afterwards with a pizza social.

St. John the Baptist BBQ

After attending Divine Liturgy on the Feast of St. John the Baptist, a BBQ was held. There was good food and water games were played by the attendees. All of these social events benefited from the GCU Parish Social Grant.

Christina Aguirre | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. John Byzantine Catholic Church

LYNDORA, PA

Flag Day Celebration

Thanks to the GCU Parish Social Grant for purchasing the desserts for our annual Flag Day Celebration on Sunday, June 8. Due to the rain the event was held in our church hall this year. State Representative Marci Mustello is shown speaking to those in attendance.

John Pocchiari | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

PERTH AMBOY, NJ

75th Thank You Breakfast

On Sunday, July 6, St. Nicholas Church sponsored a "Thank You" Breakfast for all parishioners that assisted with the 75th Anniversary that was held on June 22, 2025. Thanks to the GCU Parish Social Grant for funding the breakfast.

Lisa Rebovich | Byzantine Parish Coordinator

Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church

DUQUESNE, PA

Feast Day Liturgy and Luncheon

On Sunday, June 29, 2025, the parish family of Ss. Peter & Paul Church commemorated their patronal feast day. Rev. Christiaan Kappes, PhD, SLD, pastor, celebrated the Divine Liturgy and then the faithful gathered in the church hall for a delicious buffet luncheon and to socialize with family and friends. Thanks to the GCU Parish Social Grant for assisting with this event.

Connie Kacey Smith | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church

HERMITAGE, PA

Annual Flag Day Ceremony

On Sunday, June 22, 2025, St. Michael Church held its annual Flag Day Ceremony after the 9 AM Divine Liturgy. Very Rev. Fr. Kevin Marks blessed the new flags, which were purchased through the GCU Parish Social Grant, at the end of the Liturgy. At the Social Center flagpole, Parish Coordinator Bill Dzuricko led the ceremony which began with a welcome and a moment of silence for all of the deceased parishioners and veterans over the past year. The program then included some Flag Trivia questions which were answered by the attendees. Parish Air Force Veteran Norbert Vasil, with help from Karl & Calix Gibbons, lowered and removed the old flags and replaced and raised the new flags. After the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem, a patriotic poem was read. Finally, after the singing of several patriotic songs, the program concluded with the singing of God Bless America. A special "Thank You" to Mike & Alyssa Vasil for working with the Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department to keep our Social Center flagpole in excellent working order and for taking photos of the event. Finally, thank you to all of the parishioners who attended our annual Flag Day Ceremony and especially the Gibbons family for their enthusiastic singing!

Bill Dzuricko | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Our Lady of Wisdom Byzantine Catholic Church

LAS VEGAS, NV

Bishop's First Visit

On Sunday, June 1, the newly appointed Bishop Artur Bubnevych made his first visit to Our Lady of Wisdom Church. After celebrating the Divine Liturgy a coffee social was held with funds from the GCU Parish Social Grant.

Robert Rosales | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church

LEVITTOWN, PA



Mother's & Father's Day Socials

The parish's Mother's Day Social was held after Divine Liturgy on Sunday May 4, and the Father's Day Social was held on Sunday, June 8, 2025. All parishioners were warmly invited to celebrate with all

of our mothers and fathers present at each social to enjoy good food and a joyful gathering. Thank you to GCU for the Parish Social Grant program that helped provide the food for each social.

Anna Maria Macinsky | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church

BRADDOCK, PA

Annual Feast Day Picnic

A sizzling THANK YOU to GCU for your continued, generous support through the Parish Social Grant program. Your kindness helped turn our annual Ss. Peter & Paul feast day picnic into a true celebration on Sunday, June 29, even in the toasty basement! We may have been roasting, but the laughter, food, and fellowship made it all worth it.

Arleen Jama | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Mark Pavlick, Pat & Skip Martin, Beth Gulyasy and Brent Kolesar.

St. Pius X Byzantine Catholic Church

PITTSBURGH, PA

Summer Social

After Liturgy on Sunday, June 29, everyone in attendance was invited to the church auditorium for a patriotic summer social honoring the upcoming Independence Day. Flags were passed out and a brief

ceremony consisting of the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of two patriotic songs was held. Four lucky winners had a special decal under their plates and won grilling spices as a prize. A variety of Pizza Hut pizzas, fruit, cheese, desserts and candy made up the lunch table.

Kim Kolesar | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Cindy McAnulty and Pat & Skip Martin at buffet table.



Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church

BINGHAMTON, NY AND ENDICOTT, NY



Coffee Social

Holy Spirit Church parishioners, families and friends gathered for coffee, conversation and fellowship in the parish center following Liturgy on May 18, 2025. A combination of laughter and fraternalism filled the room as the attendees enjoyed pastries and breakfast treats.



Annual Sacred Sites Open House

Sunday, May 18, 2025 also saw Holy Spirit Church celebrated as one of 20 sites to participate in the 15th Annual Sacred Sites Open House hosted by the Preservation Association of the Southern Tier, in partnership with the

NY Landmarks Conservancy. The open house is an opportunity for the public to explore the diverse art, architecture and history of the area and its buildings. This year's theme, "Building for Eternity: Religious Architecture and Artisans," highlighted the beauty and craftsmanship within our local houses of worship.

We would like to say thank you to GCU for their financial assistance with sponsoring a portion of these events through the generosity of the Byzantine Parish Social Grant.

An extra special thank you to Dianne Metzger and Mary Ann Smilnak for the dedication as guides and presenters for visitors to the church during the Open House.



Joint Feast Day Commemoration

On June 29, 2025, the parishes of Holy Spirit and Ss. Peter & Paul gathered to celebrate the Feast Days of their churches. Following a combined Divine Liturgy celebration at Holy Spirit, a luncheon was held in the parish center. The chef responsible for the delicious meal was Very Rev. Steven Galuschik, and the sous-chef was Rev. Fr. Dcn. Richard Terza.

We are especially thankful to everyone who gathered to share in this special day. We also appreciate everyone who volunteered to help with preparation, setup, cleanup, dish washing and trash removal.

Thank you to everyone who comes together to make our



church events successful. Thanks to the GCU for providing our dessert through the Parish Social Grant Program.

Daria Shierly | Byzantine Parish Coordinator for Ss. Peter & Paul Church

Resurrection Byzantine Catholic Church SMITHTOWN, NY



Father's Day Celebration

On Sunday, June 15 we held a celebration for the parish's fathers with a family luncheon!

End of Year Celebration

End of year celebration for religious classes

included pizza & ice cream for our youngest parishioners. Both events were funded with the GCU Parish Social Grant.

Joanne Marcus | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. Emilian Byzantine Catholic Church BRUNSWICK, OH

Mother's Day Brunch

On Sunday, May 11 a happy Mother's Day was wished to all moms of St. Emilian parish. A delicious brunch including waffles, eggs, sausage, fruit and a variety of pastries was enjoyed by all who participated in this event after the Divine Liturgy.

Father Bob's 25th Anniversary

Happy Anniversary! Happy 25th anniversary to Father Robert Kelly. Father Bob celebrated 25 years of religious dedication on June 8, 2025. Parishioners, friends and family enjoyed a social after the Divine Liturgy to celebrate this joyous event. May God grant him many happy and blessed years.



Father's Day Brunch

Happy Father's Day to all of the fathers at St. Emilian BC Church. A fabulous brunch including eggs, sausage, bacon, fruit and dessert was enjoyed by all parishioners after the Divine Liturgy. To top off the festivities root beer floats were made to celebrate this joyous event. Finally, all men of the parish received a St. Emilian bottle opener. Thank you GCU Parish Social Grant for making all of these celebrations possible!

Natalie Washlock | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. Mary Assumption Byzantine Catholic Church

NEW SALEM, PA

Honoring Mothers and Fathers

The mothers and fathers of St. Mary Assumption Church were honored on their special days. The mothers were given pink carnations, and both mothers and fathers received small bags filled with a variety of gifts which were blessed by the pastor, Father James Ragan. Thank you GCU Parish Social Grant for making this possible.

Bernadette Karoffa | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church

TRUMBULL, CT



Annual Parish Picnic

On Sunday, June 8, 2025 St. John the Baptist Church held their annual parish picnic in honor of the church's patron saint. Delicious food, fellowship, fun and games for the children provided an enjoyable time for all on the beautiful church grounds. The parishioners and guests thank the volunteers for their hard work to make the picnic happen. The GCU Parish Social Grant Program contributed to this annual event.

Alice Shingola | Byzantine Parish Coordinator





St. Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church

UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA

Flag Day Ceremony and Ice Cream Social

On Sunday, June 15 at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, the parish offered prayerful supplications for our nation under God as we celebrated Flag Day. Afterwards, we gathered in our church hall for an ice cream party. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and the make-your-own-sundae bar. Many thanks to the GCU Parish Social Grant for sponsoring this sweet and fun social event!

Dorothy Mayernik | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Ascension Byzantine Catholic Church CLAIRTON, PA



Karen Dufalla, Trish Roberts and Jessica Dufalla.

Helping Hands Planting

On Sunday, June 8, after Liturgy at Ascension Church the children and their families helped clean and prepare the raised flower beds and the children had fun planting flowers and watering them. A light luncheon was held afterwards for participants.



Young members of Ascension Church who helped plant flowers with Trish Roberts standing behind.



Mother's Day Gifts

Mother's Day was celebrated at Ascension Church with carnation corsages for all of the moms. Father Christopher Burke dedicated the Liturgy that day and during the week in honor of mothers deceased and living.



Trish Roberts and Jack Lesko.

Father's Day

Dads were recognized on Father's Day at Ascension Church with flowers for their lapels. Afterwards everyone was invited to the hall for cake and coffee to celebrate Father Christopher's 70th birthday. Father Chris dedicated Sunday's Liturgy and those held during the week for all of the dads deceased and living. Thanks to the GCU Parish Social Grant for funding all of these events.

Trish Roberts | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Fr. Christopher Burke gives a few words at his 70th birthday gathering.



Father's Day Social.

Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Churches

NORTHSIDE-PITTSBURGH, PA &
MCKEES ROCKS, PA

Combined Parish Picnic

On Sunday, July 13 the Holy Ghost parishes from McKees Rocks and Northside-Pittsburgh had a combined parish picnic. The Northside church provided the soda pop, water & potato salad and the McKees Rocks parishes provided the meat & buns. Both parishes took advantage of the GCU Parish Social Grant program to fund the event.

Barbara Stecko | Byzantine Parish Coordinator

Donna Herron | Byzantine Parish Coordinator



Deborah Magnes receives a flower from Parish Coordinator Tom Oslick.



Mike Magnes receives a gift from Parish Coordinator Tom Oslick.

Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church

WALL, PA

Mother's Day / Father's Day Gifts

To honor the mothers of Holy Trinity Parish, candy and flowers were passed out to all mothers on Mother's Day. On Father's Day all fathers of Holy Trinity Church were given candy, a pen and tablet to honor them.

Tom Oslick | Byzantine Parish Coordinator

Welcome to Sand Springs: A New Chapter for the Holupki Open

The 46th annual Joseph Durkay Memorial golf tournament sponsored by the GCU Hazleton Constellation teed off at Sand Springs Country Club in Drums, PA for the first time. We are happy to have found a new venue for the tournament going forward. This was the first larger event for Kevin Yurkanin, our new CC for Hazleton, and I was able to show him the ropes. Being that Kevin is a teacher in the area, he seemed to know everyone who walked by—he fit right in!

With its beautifully manicured grounds, generous staff and delicious food, Sand Springs certainly delivered. Despite early forecasts predicting storms, the day stayed dry and clear—setting the perfect backdrop for what turned out to be one of the most competitive tournaments in recent memory.

Fierce Flights & Final Hole Show-Down. This year's competition was split into two flights A and B. Both divisions delivered razor-close finishes. Tie-breakers determined multiple finishing spots—every shot made or missed mattered.

Flight A Results: 1st Place: Team Chulock — Score: 57 Thomas, Andrew & John Chulock. 2nd Place: Team Sabol — Score: 63 (won tie-breaker on Hole #2) Mike & Lauren Sabol and Aimee & Dustin Kern.



Flight B Results: 1st Place: Team Oravec—Score: 67 (won tie-breaker on Hole #14) Joe Oravec, Mike Malozzi, Brian Smith and Tony Glovas. 2nd Place: Team Mancini — Score: 67 (lost tie-breaker on Hole #14) Gene Mancini, David Flannery, Nick Ryba and Ian Johnston. From start to finish, the scores stayed extreme-

ly close and the tie-breaker holes brought suspense and excitement to the final tally.

Skins Game Showdown: Team Chulock dominated the board with three skins: Eagle on Hole #9, Eagle on Hole #11, Birdie on Hole #12. Team Kaschak snagged the final skin with a clutch eagle on Hole #16. With so much talent across the board, earning a skin this year took something extra special—and these teams delivered!

Congratulations to the following individual winners: Longest Putt (Hole #14): Shawn Boyle; Closest to the Pin – Women: JoAnn Shimanski; Women's Long Drive (Hole #2): Hope Kinney; Men's Long Drive (Hole #15): Jake Wesley and 2nd Longest Men's Drive (Hole #15): Ed Kiel.

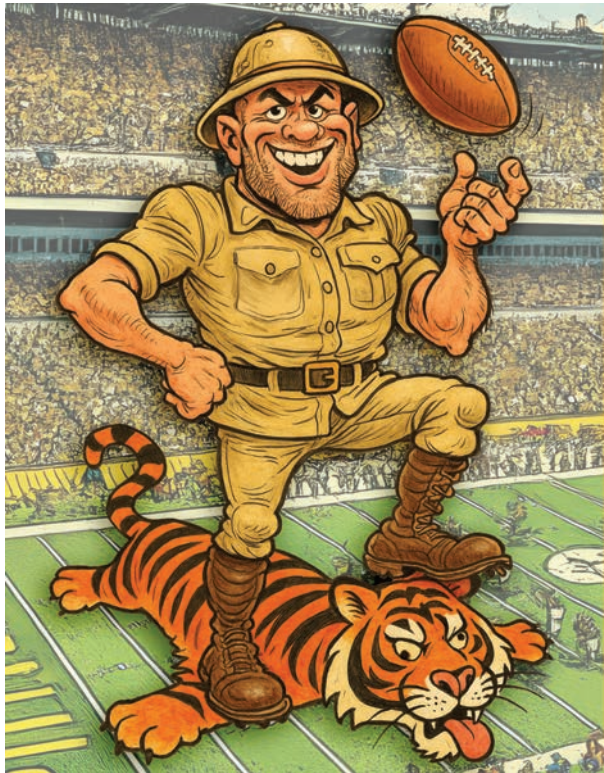
Competition between teams has always been very close and exciting. I would like to congratulate *all* teams and golfers, and I predict the competition will be close again next year! The most important part is coming out and having a good time. Thank you to all for making this year's Holupki Open exciting and fun!

Whether you missed the Holupki Open this year or if you joined us and are looking to come out to another GCU golf tournament, check out our End of Summer Golf Tournament scheduled for Sunday, September 14, 2025 at Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club for a 1:30 PM shotgun.

Contact GCU Corporate Community Events Coordinator Melissa Jaggars, mjaggars@GCUusa.com or 878-207-2327 or Laure Marcin, Scranton/WB Constellation Coordinator, lmarcin@GCUusa.com or 570-466-5941.

Melissa Jaggars | Corp. Comm. Events Coordinator





GCU Steelers Game Day: Big Game Hunting Edition!

Steelers vs. Bengals

Get your Terrible Towels ready because this November, we're going on a Steel City Safari to track down some striped prey. The Cincinnati Bengals are in town, and we're bringing the hunt to Acrisure Stadium!

Date: Sunday, November 16, 2025
Time: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Location: Acrisure Stadium – Section 518
Tickets: Coming Soon (Keep your binoculars peeled!)

Join your GCU family for a wild and unforgettable day of football, friendship, and full-throttle fan energy.

Dress Code: Black & Gold Camo (optional, but highly encouraged)

Questions?
 Contact your Game Day Guide:
 Casey Bush
 724-683-3927
 cbush@gcuusa.com

Let's go hunting - Steelers style!

Photos from the GCU Spring Golf Classic

Monday, June 2 at Seven Oaks Country Club



For Your Information

Events

91st Annual Pilgrimage at Mt. St. Macrina

**Friday, August 29, 2025
through Monday, September 1, 2025**

Mt. St. Macrina
500 West Main Street,
Uniontown, PA 15401
724-438-8644

More info & schedule of events appear on page 17.

Night at the Races

Saturday, September 13, 2025
\$20 Ticket includes admission & food
BYOB
\$10 Buy a Horse
5:30 pm Doors Open
6 Dinner
7 Races Begin

St. John Chrysostom Hall (Greenfield)
506 Saline Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Contact Beverly Rebovich at
412-315-1514 for tickets.

Fall Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery, Sugarloaf, PA

Saturday, October 18, 2025
8 AM Liturgy
9 AM Work Begins
12 NOON Lunch

Contact Melissa Jaggars at
878-207-2327 or mjaggars@GCUusa.com

Available

Carpathian Cookery Cookbook

Having sold nearly 20,500 copies, the cookbook has entered its 22nd printing and was requested by the Library of Congress to be in their ethnic cooking collection. The 330-page cookbook has a new look and features a protective plastic cover. The book includes sections on Christmas and Easter customs and recipes, traditional Rusyn and Slavic foods, other ethnic dishes, and many other tried-and-true recipes of St. John's parishioners. There is a variety of paska bread and kolachi (filled roll) recipes, as well as meatless dishes and Lenten recipes, suitable for the Great Fast, as well as the Pre-Christmas Fast. The cost of the cookbook is \$14.⁰⁰ plus \$6.⁰⁰ postage and handling (\$20.⁰⁰). If ordering from Canada, please send a \$38.⁰⁰ (\$14 + \$24 postage) U.S. Postal money order payable in U.S. dollars to reflect the difference in the exchange rate and postage cost. To order please send a check or money order to: Ethnic Craft Club, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401, call 724-438-1382 (M–F 9 AM–3 PM please leave a message) or email carpathiancookery@gmail.com.



Discount Amusement Park Tickets for 2025



Discounted Amusement Park tickets for the 2025 season are available to GCU members for online purchase. Parks include:

Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA (tickets good through September 7. Look for Fall Fest & Holiday Lights tickets available soon).

Knoebels Park, Elysburg, PA (ticket books do not expire).

Hershey Park, Hershey, PA. (tickets good through January 4, 2026).

Visit the GCU website at GCUusa.com.

Remembrances



Dorothy Ann Foran

National Director 2000-2022

Dorothy Ann Foran, 77, of Hazleton, PA passed into eternity to the house of our Heavenly Father early Friday morning, May 30, 2025 at St. Luke Manor. She was born in Hazleton daughter of the late John & Helen (Lencsak) Gochalla.

Dorothy was a 1965 graduate of St. Gabriel High School. She received an Associate Degree in Accounting from McCann Business College in 1968. She was a licensed Fraternal Insurance Agent for the GCU and a licensed Insurance Counselor.

Dorothy was a lifelong member of the GCU having held offices at the lodge, district and national levels. In 1985 she was named the GCU Fraternalist of the Year. She was elect-

ed to the GCU Board of Directors in 2000 and served until retiring in 2022. Dorothy was a true fraternalist and worked to keep her fellow Board members focused on the mission of the GCU in her 20 plus years serving as a National Director. She was also focused on the GCU youth and served as a member and then as the chairperson of the Scholarship Committee for many years.

Dorothy was a member of St. John Byzantine Catholic Church where she participated in many church activities. She worked at the parish bingo for over 50 years starting at St. Joseph's Bingo and then moving to St. John's Bingo. Dorothy ran the parish's bingo, organizing all aspects of

it and truly enjoyed the challenge over the years.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband of 45 years Deacon Lawrence F. Foran who passed away in 2023.

She is survived by her cousin and caregiver Sharon Horvath and family, her close friend and caregiver John Nonnemacher and a number of cousins and especially her faithful companion Gretal.

Her funeral was held on Wednesday, June 4 with a Divine Liturgy with Office of Christian Burial at St. John B.C. Church. Interment followed in the parish cemetery. Blessed repose and eternal memory.

Deceased Members

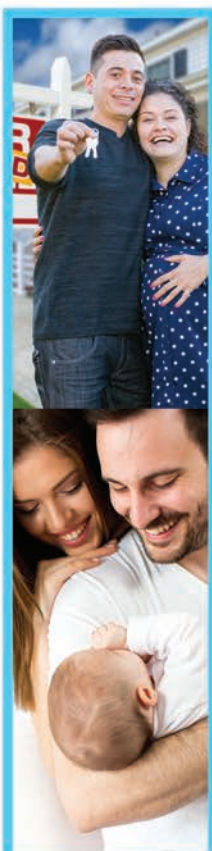
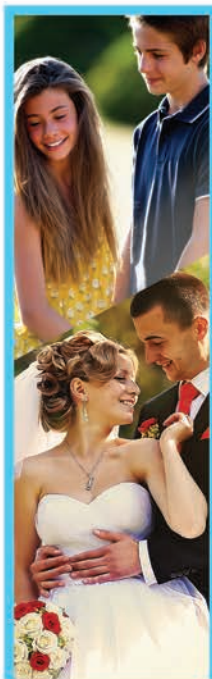
(State Lodge-Member-City-State)

8344 Shirley Ann Babilya—Brownsville, PA	8344 Emma Ferrari—Monessen, PA	8344 Theresa Krawczyk—Koppel, PA
8337 Dolores Bailey—Babylon Line, NY	8344 Dorothy A. Foran—Hazleton, PA	8309 Theodore Krevinko—Deland, FL
8335 Veronica Bakunas— Point Pleasant, NJ	8344 Junior L. Fordyce—Beaver, PA	8344 Mary A. Krueger—Wampum, PA
8315 Sophie Bandura—Griffith, IN	8354 Janet Fowkes—Oakton, VA	8344 Jack Kruze—Coraopolis, PA
8327 Lois D. Bauer—Fertile, MN	8358 Gregory Gieldon—Greenfield, WI	8354 Eleanor L. Krzemienski— Arlington, VA
8344 Herbert Beck—Sunbury, PA	8360 Richard L. Gladden—Rock Hill, SC	8335 Martha Kunak Szaro—Toms River, NJ
8344 Howard Begley—Industry, PA	8341 Genevieve Grayson—LaGrange, OH	8313 Marie D. Lane—Pecatonica, IL
8313 Ruth Berkel—O’Fallon, IL	8344 Glendon Groft—Berlin, PA	8344 Robert Lanetti—Lansdale, PA
8344 Franklin D. Betton—Ligonier, PA	8335 Arthur Grohgans—Stewartsville, NJ	8302 Marabe Laughlin—Wickenburg, AZ
8344 Jean A. Billig—Bowmanstown, PA	8341 Donald S. Grove—Elyria, OH	8344 John A. Lefdahl—Indiana, PA
8344 Anna M. Bondura—Port Carbon, PA	8344 Joanne M. Gudzan—Conway, PA	8344 Madlyn Lesneski—Old Forge, PA
8309 Flora Boyd—Sebastian, FL	8309 Gary J. Gula—Fort Meyers, FL	8344 Maureen Linton—Murrysville, PA
8344 Lillian D. Bradshaw—McMurray, PA	8326 William L. Gulledge— Roscommon, MI	8344 Dallas G. Lokay—McDonald, PA
8313 Janice Brands—Beecher, IL	8344 Dorothy Halaburka—Munhall, PA	8359 Karen J. Luderman—Dallas, GA
8344 Mary Brehany—Downingtown, PA	8344 Leo Hegner—Beaver Falls, PA	8341 George Lutza—Youngstown, OH
8309 Lynn C. Breitenberg— Flagler Beach, FL	8344 Carol A. Hendrix—York, PA	8326 Anna Magusin—Sterling Hts., MI
8315 Constance S. Bryant—Porter, IN	8344 Alice Margaret Henry— West Mifflin, PA	8341 Margaret Maruschak— Youngstown, OH
8344 William P. Cathers—Allison Park, PA	8302 Dorothy R. Hewett—Novato, CA	8326 Annette Mathewson—Lenox, MI
8344 Shirley Chauvet—McDonald, PA	8309 Lorraine C. Hopper— St. Augustine, FL	8326 Gregory E. Matyniak— Hamtramck, MI
8344 Shirley Cole—Natrona Hts., PA	8343 Doreen Howard—Falls City, OR	8344 Helen McElroy—Leisenring, PA
8341 Barbara A. Colin—East Palestine, OH	8309 James H. Hulse—Vero Beach, FL	8302 Shirley Melady—Sun City West, AZ
8311 Sean Michael Conroy—Honolulu, HI	8344 Ronald K. Hutt—Sellersville, PA	8315 Betty Ann Mika—Hammond, IN
8315 Rita J. Courtney—Noblesville, IN	8344 Stanley Jasinski—Scranton, PA	8344 David W. Miller—Monongahela, PA
8309 Bernice Cruise—Ocoee, FL	8344 Robert Jeffers—Ford City, PA	8315 Mary Milosovich—Merrillville, IN
8344 Lydia G. Daugherty— McKees Rocks, PA	8326 James A. Johnson—Frankfort, MI	8315 Anna J. Miltz—Merrillville, IN
8344 Carol A. Davenport— Lower Burrell, PA	8344 Joseph A. Kaliszewski—Erie, PA	8344 Fred Moore—Leechburg, PA
8344 Thomas E. Day—Stevens, PA	8344 Evelyn Kallenborn—Munhall, PA	8302 Louis R. Moretto—Castle Rock, CO
8315 Sandra K. Dian—Crown Point, IN	8344 Bernard M. Karaffa— S. Connellsville, PA	8344 Margaret Moser—Cabot, PA
8344 Gregory Douglass—Beaver Falls, PA	8344 James Kassab—Altoona, PA	8344 George Murin—Pittsburgh, PA
8344 Joseph Duda—Taylor, PA	8359 Richard R. Kern—Davidson, NC	8359 Rosa L. Musselwhite—Maxton, NC
8344 Minta C. Dunkel—Punxsutawney, PA	8344 Mary Lou Kite Stewart— Zelienople, PA	8324 Donald W. Myers—Westminster, MD
8326 George Durisin—Riverview, MI	8337 Michael Kopcho—Endicott, NY	8302 Mary A. Novak—Gilbert, AZ
8344 Lawrence W. Eich—Port Carbon, PA	8344 Evelyn E. Krache—Oakmont, PA	8341 Ella R. O’Conner—Hubbard, OH
8344 Samuel E. Entwistle—Sewickley, PA	8341 John Krapovich—Aurora, OH	8327 Kenneth J. Oien—Fertile, MN
8344 Robert E. Fatzinger—Lehighton, PA		8344 Betty L. Opsasnick— North Abington Twp., PA

8344 Robert C. Pearce—Johnstown, PA	8344 Richard F. Surdzial—Pittsburgh, PA
8304 Jeannine Perez—Fallbrook, CA	8344 Leona J. Swartzlander— New Galilee, PA
8344 John E. Petronchak—Aliquippa, PA	8344 Theresa A. Terray—Lehigh, PA
8344 Wilda Jean Piroth—Pittsburgh, PA	8344 Antonio J. Tomeo—Ellwood City, PA
8344 Michael E. Pleva— Schuylkill Haven, PA	8344 Fred J. Totera—Beaver Falls, PA
8306 Cynthia A. Powanda—Ansonia, CT	8341 Dolores Marie Vrabel—Canfield, OH
8315 Leonard P. Procopio— Sellersburg, IN	8344 Clifford S. Wagner—White Oak, PA
8327 Orval A. Proechel—Waseca, MN	8344 Steve Wasilow—Emmaus, PA
8344 Robert W. Rairigh—Indiana, PA	8344 Linda Weaver—Uniontown, PA
8344 Leo Rech—Ebensburg, PA	8315 Hannelore Weber—Valparaiso, IN
8344 Virginia Reddinger—Rural Valley, PA	8341 Elizabeth Whites—Wickliffe, OH
8344 Carole Redman—Bridgeport, PA	8344 Mary-Dorothy Winslow— Coraopolis, PA
8335 Mary L. Reynolds— Mays Landing, NJ	8331 Stefanie Wyskida—Helena, MT
8341 Jean K. Riddle—East Palestine, OH	8360 Madeline Yanushko— Mount Pleasant, SC
8349 Catherine Riley— North Vancouver, BC	8344 Dolores Yanzetich—Sidman, PA
8341 Rosemary Roethel—Euclid, OH	8344 Michael Yatsko—Collegeville, PA
8344 John Joseph Sabol—Wellsboro, PA	8359 Dorothy Yetso—Colfax, NC
8344 Edward Samudosky— West Mifflin, PA	8344 Grace M. Zapsic—Midland, PA
8304 Helen Sanders—Palm Desert, CA	8344 Kathlyne S. Zimmermann— Pittsburgh, PA
8344 Victor Schaffer—Pittsburgh, PA	
8344 Charles W. Schrope—Bellefonte, PA	
8315 Joanne Schultz—Whiting, IN	
8344 James A. Shaffer—Hadley, PA	
8344 Judith M. Shaffer—Tiona, PA	
8335 Helen I. Shanosky—Somerset, NJ	
8344 Luther Shaulis—Somerset, PA	
8344 Marilyn B. Sherman—Houston, PA	
8344 Boris J. Shihinski—Dickson City, PA	
8344 Bernard S. Shinko—Kingston, PA	
8344 Maude V. Shoaf—Ellwood City, PA	
8344 Louise Slavik—Baden, PA	
8304 Geraldine L. Smothers— Santa Ana, CA	
8344 Rose Stewart—Portage, PA	



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