

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Minutes

November 12, 2025

Gary opened the meeting at 7pm.

Mary Merenda began with an opening prayer. We prayed for Bob Pirrelli (beloved husband of SVDP member Nerina) who passed away on November 6th and Eleanor Stelma (mother of SVDP member Michele Carey) who passed away on November 8th.

There were four new members and 36 members in all attended: Christine Pompa, Gary Crispo, Cindy Ashworth, Robert and Denise Herberger, Joyce Pfirman, Rich and Sharon Brilla, Anne and Howard Cohen, Dan Hubecky, Anna Nachstein, Lorry Thorne, Marie Brown, Diane Meleshkewich, Wendy Travis, Thomas Guido, Karen Salatino, Bill Stickle, Mary Muth, Jim and Pat Mullen, Tom O'Mara, Diane Morrison, Pamela Mills, Donald Ryan, Dave Weaving, Shane Murray, Margaret Donovan, Georgette Orlando, Mary Merenda, Susan Sinclair, Mary Carolan, Betsy Thompson, Jean Alvarado, and Debbie Anjos.

The Minutes of October 2025 were approved by Susan Sinclair and Denise Herberger.

HPNAP (Hunger Prevention & Nutrition Assistance Program) Report October 2025

	Oct 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2024
Households	135	110	119
Children	88	68	83
Adults	210	152	190
Elderly	85	88	66
Total People	383	308	339

Gary summarized October 2025 which represents a 25-household increase over the previous month of September 2025, major drivers being Adults & Children. There was a 16-household increase over October 2024.

2025 Food Bank Purchases (October)

There were two Food Bank Trips last month. Members drove to the food bank, and several were on hand to help put away food.

Date	Gross Weight (lbs.)	Total Cost	Grants	Our Cost
Oct 8	1,444	\$1,784.28	\$400	\$1,384.28
Oct 9	645	\$748.96	\$0	\$748.96

Driving to the food bank were Bill Stickle, Wendy Travis, Ed Davis. On hand to put the food away were Michele Carey, Tom Guido, Claude Heddle, Bob Kavanaugh, Tom O'Mara, Marie Brown, Trish Jecmen, and Gary Crispo.

Gary updated members about a SNAP emergency food distribution the pantry received from Dutchess County.

Treasurer's Report Oct 2025 – Deb Anjos (for Jessica McMahon)

- We received a Legislative Support grant of \$2,700.
- “Wakefern” Partners in Caring Grant of \$1,000. Wakefern owns ShopRite & Price Rite

Food Drives (Completed):

9/27 - Shoprite - St. Kateri Knights of Columbus. Thanks to Ed Davis coordinating. We collected 1,860 lbs of food and cash donations of \$440. Helping from SVDP were: Mary & Bill Muth, Dom Schepis, Dave Weaving,

Anne and Howard Cohen, and Gary Crispo.

Food Drives (upcoming)

Gary shared upcoming food drives.

FALL 2025		
WHEN	WHAT	COORDINATOR
NOV. 16 (9am-4pm)	EF PBA at ACME	Tom O'Mara
NOV. 23 (pickup 3:34pm)	‘Stuff the Bus’ Stop & Shop (Pok only)	Gary

Database Update / New Client Assignments

Dave Weaving shared that there has been an increase in new clients which are in need of member reps.

TEFAP Forms

Gary Crispo

Pantry Updates

Tom O'Mara/Marie Brown

Kohls Gift Cards for Children – Linda Hunt

Thanks to everyone who picked up their client cards

Reminder Winter Coats – Linda Hunt

Coats are still available. Please reach Linda by phone or text at (914) 584-6260.

Christmas ShopRite Gift Card

Distribution is Saturday, Dec 6.

Reminder: HEAP 2025-2026

Mark the Date: Application opened November 3rd.

Highlight on Fareground.org

Gary pointed out free farm stands, community meals and other services offered by Fareground.org and suggested members share this information with their clients as an additional source of food assistance. Fareground's information and website link will be added to SVDP's website.

December Meeting

The next meeting is December 10th, when we will have our Christmas Party which will be held in the St. Columba School cafeteria. All are asked to bring a dish to share.

Closing Prayer – Mary Merenda

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

In Memory of Masses from St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

- **Mass for Emil Kurak:** Sunday, December 28, 2025, 12:00pm at St. Columba
- **Mass for Bob Pirrelli:** Sunday, March 15, 2026, 10:30am, at St. Columba
- **Mass for Elenor Stelma:**