

SANTA MARIA

FAIRBORN COUNCIL #3724
KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS

Star Council 1968-1969, 1971-1972, 1973-1974, 1979-1980, 1985-1986, 1992-1993, 1996-1997, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024 & 2024-2025

Fraternal Year 2025-2026 CHARTERED IN OCTOBER 1953 April 2026

On March 29, 1882, the Knights of Columbus was formally chartered by the state of Connecticut. In 2020 apostolic letter announcing Father McGivney's beatification, Pope Francis affirmed that Father McGivney's "zeal for the proclamation of the Gospel and generous concern for the needs of his brothers and sisters made him an outstanding witness of Christian solidarity and fraternal assistance." Today, more than 2 million Knights around the world continue to live out Blessed Michael McGivney's vision.

Thank you Brothers for being part of this great organization.



Inside this Issue

25/26 Officers and Directors	—2
Membership Director's Corner	—4
Ohio Charities Campaign	—6
Home Corporation	—15
Good the Order	—18

Special points of interest

- Scouting for Food
- April Birthdays
- Men's Retreat
- Respect for Life

**3724 Officers/ Directors
2025 - 2026 Fraternal Year**

Position/Email	Name	Phone Number
Chaplain:	Father Bedel	937-426-1733 x6205
Spiritual Advisor:	Deacon Max Roadruck	937-879-5332
Grand Knight: grandknight@3724kofc.org	Tom Pitstick tvpistick@gmail.com	937-272-2262
Deputy Grand Knight/Program Director: deputygk@3724kofc.org	Tim Barlow	719-351-1185
Chancellor:	Stephen Kosey	smkosey5@gmail.com
Warden:	Brian Petachi	937-765-6387
Recorder:	Matt Justice	937-825-2035
Financial Secretary: fs@3724kofc.org	PGK Russell Milliron	937-609-9068
Treasurer: gene.erbacher@gmail.com	PGK Gene Erbacher	937-477-5669
Advocate:	PGK Steve Wal	937-672-6847
Lecturer:	Herb Edwards	937-901-6074
Membership Director: markmarilyndues@gmail.com	Mark Dues	937-271-4791
Faith Activities: donterishshepherd@aol.com	PGK Don Shepherd	937-657-4375
Life Activities:	Percy Gros	937-878-5455
Community Activities: grant.kempf@gmail.com	PGK Grant Kempf	937-609-1471
Retention Chairman: Silkbloom1@aol.com	David Johnston	937-825-3576
Family Activities: dcyphers2@woh.rr.com	Dan Cyphers	937-266-3507
Bereavement:	Vacant	
Bingo:	Eric Rogalinski	937-657-6958
Home Corporation President: homecorp@3724kofc.org	PGK Frank Minnick	937-522-0866
K of C Insurance: livio.santos@kofc.org	Livio Santos	937-317-1517



**K of C Hall
937-878-2909**





Pastor Father Jason Bedel

954 N. Maple Ave,
Fairborn OH, 45324

parishoffice@mhcparrish.org

Pastor of St Michael the Archangel Family of Parishes
Chaplain and Member of Fairborn Council 3724

4th Degree Knight



Father Alex Biryomumeisho

324 S Ohio Ave.

Sidney, OH 45365

biryolexom@gmail.com

UPDATE: Father Alex advises his work permit has been approved!!

He also won \$100 on the Reverse Raffle ticket the Brother Knights bought for him.

Also, Father Alex has transferred his K of C Membership to Fairborn Council 3724!! Since his time at the Seminary when we first met he feels the Fairborn Knights truly became his Brothers in Christ and he is grateful for that bond.

Seminarian Nicholas Hinkel

AoC Propaedeutic

Pontifical College Josephinum.

7625 N High Street

Columbus Ohio 43235.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Brothers, Happy Easter, and Happy Spring! He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Marilyn & I are in Florida as I write this. We plan to visit with PGK John Wolfe and his family shortly after Easter, so my next column hopefully will have some pictures of our get-together. Special thanks to Brother Herb Edwards for filling in for me while I'm gone. If you have any questions concerning membership or need a name tag, see Brother Herb.

Congratulations, Brothers! We have reached our fraternal goal of 15, which is the fifth time in a row we have done so! Please welcome Nick Maiorano as our newest brother, and who was accepted into our Council last business meeting. Hopefully, this also will mean we will be awarded Star Council again this year!

Now, if you have a new prospect, and he is eager to join, please have him do so! If you sign him up via the Knights' digital website (see below), he can automatically become a Knight and belong to the State Council. Once the new fraternal year rolls around, we can then have him complete his enrollment into Council 3724 by viewing the exemplification video we can send him. Please let me, the Grand Knight, or Brother Herb know if you have a prospect or any questions.

Don't forget to add [Join Us | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](https://www.kofc.org) as an app to your cell phone. It's a lot easier to sign someone up and get information to him immediately. Remember, all online member applications with the Promo Code RHERNANDEZ (the code from our K of C Insurance Representative) will receive twelve months of online membership free. You can also use the promo code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY.

Name Tags: If you need a new Council 3724 and/or Fourth Degree name tag, see Brother Herb Edwards at the next business meeting. The cost per tag is \$5.00.

2026 Ohio Charities Super Cash Bonanza



The Ohio Charities campaign is underway and will once again help 3724 raise money for the charities we support locally. The tickets are \$5.00 with the council retaining \$2.40 of every ticket sold.

The state chairman is also authorizing some additional incentives for making early turn ins etc. The drawing will be held at the State Convention May 23rd, 2026. Your hard work last year helped 3724 sell over 1100 tickets, netting the council a little over \$3,000 when you factor in the bonus incentives.

Some of the charities we supported are Food for Families, 2nd Harvest Food Bank, St. Vincent DePaul, Coats for Kids, Family and Youth Initiatives, various Right to Life activities and various Veteran's programs.

The all-important first phase of the campaign has begun. Ten tickets will be mailed out to each registered member of 3724, you should be receiving your tickets shortly if you haven't already. It is critical that we sell/buy as many tickets as possible before the first state turn-in date.

These tickets net the council the biggest rebate. Final turn in for the first phase will be Thursday March 26, 2026, so we can make the deadline. The final turn in for phase 2 will be Sunday May 10, 2026 so we can make the cutoff prior to the convention. Tickets can be turned in any Thursday night at the Hall, at Bingo, or mailed to 934 N Maple Ave, Fairborn, OH 45324.

Please make checks payable to K of C Council #3724

The ticket stub must have a full name and address or full name and ten-digit phone number. The name must be an individual, not a parish or organization. Please contact PGK Gene Erbacher for additional tickets at (gene.erbacher@gmail.com) or (937) 477-5669.

Checks and stubs can be mailed directly to the hall or directly to me,
KofC Council 3724 PGK Gene Erbacher
934 N. Maple Ave. 1442 Wedgewood Dr.
Fairborn, OH 45324 Fairborn, OH 45324

On behalf of your Grand Knight thank you brothers for any help you can give. PGK Gene



BLUE COAT AWARDS



Time is running out to RSVP to attend the Fairborn Council 3724 Blue Coat awards on Thursday April 30. Doors open at 6 PM. Dinner 6:30 PM. Award ceremony at 7:30 PM.

Sign up sheets are in the lounge. Last day to sign up is Thursday April 9th Business Meeting. If you plan to attend, please sign up or contact PGK Kempf. 937-609-1471 grant.kempf@gmail.com

If you can help with set up Thursday morning at 9 AM and clean up Friday morning, please let PGK Kempf know. If you can help in the kitchen let PGK Minnick know. Your help for this great event is much appreciated!

We are expecting a large crowd including some very worthy local Heroes!

Mary, Help of Christians / Fairborn K of C Blood Drive

The semiannual blood drive was held on Saturday March 14. There were 19 Heroes who donated the gift of life. Thank so much to all the donors and everyone who supports this most important event.



Financial Advisory Board Fraternal Year 2025-2026

Grand Knight: Tom Pitstick

Deputy Grand Knight: Tim Barlow

Trustee: PGK Don Shepherd

Council Treasurer: PGK Gene Erbacher

Home Corp President: PGK Frank Minnick

Home Corp Treasurer: PGK Herman Karhoff

1st Year At-Large Member: Bro. Steve Glass **2nd Year At-Large Member:** vacant

FAB met on January 29 to review charter and specifically the formulation used to determine reserve amount prior to deciding charitable distributions. PGK Karhoff took action to rewrite charter including CPI index, spreadsheets, and date updates to be reviewed at next meeting.

Next FAB meeting will be April 23 at 6:30 (1 week early because of Blue Coat Awards on 4/30.)

“LET’S GO FLYING!!”

Do you know anyone between the ages of 8 and 17 years old? If so, invite them to soar the skies with the EAA Chapter 382 and the Young Eagles Program. Every summer this dedicated group of pilots donate their time and planes to give young people the experience of flying. This years dates are: 23 May, 20 June, 11 July, 15 August, 12 September. Each rally begins at 8:00 AM and ends around 12:00 noon at the Greene County Airport. Reservations can be made on line at <https://share.google/6AwIz0KWlYzlhQgB0> Sign up early as space is limited. If you are lucky you might get to fly with ace pilots Brother Percy Gros and Brother Steve Glass of our own Fairborn Council!!



KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Knight of the Month, Brother Dave Johnston. Dave is a PSR instructor and helps both St Vincent de Paul and Family & Youth Initiatives organizations. Last year he served as our Chancellor and this year he has stepped up to be our Retention Chairman. Through his efforts at least one member has rejoined our Council. Brother Dave is very generous in buying our various raffle tickets in support of charities. Thank you Dave for the time you give to our Council, Church and Community.



FAMILY OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Family of the Month, PGK Jim and Judy McCoy. PGK Jim has been an active member for over 50 years. He has held many offices in the Council including Grand Knight. He is know as our Super Salesman , always the top seller of all our fund raisers. None of his accomplishments would have been possible without the hard work of Judy who keeps track of the events and activities Jim participates. God Bless both Jim & Judy for everything you have done for the Council and Parish.



SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Fairborn Council 3724 assisted with the annual Scouting for Food drive held by Scout Troop 68 of the Tecumseh Council. Over 50 scouts camped out in preparation for the event. Saturday morning, Scout Leader Emeritus PGK Russell Milliron reminded the scouts the impact of what they were doing will have on the most needy in the community for months to come. Then the scouts fanned out in the neighborhoods collecting, sorting, packing, and loading over 2600 pounds of food into Fairborn St Vincent de Paul vehicles to be taken to the Fairborn pantry. Thanks to the Scouts, SVDP team, and Fairborn Knights for working on this most impactful event.



Happy April Birthday to our Brother Knights

Corky Block
Gene Erbacher
Tyler Gilliland
Laurel Mayer
Steve Wal

William Borchers
Jack Franz
Patrick Gooch
Raymond Moorman
Jace Wilson

Robert Brandstetter
Nicholas Freyberger
Jay Lapore
Gary Plunkett
John Young



If you missed last month's Parish Breakfast, you missed out on a great crowd and delicious Jammy Oat Bars!!

One more chance to join us for breakfast before the summer break. See you on Sunday April 12th from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM



MEN'S RETREAT

Fairborn Council 3724 held its annual Men's Retreat on March 21st. Inspirational talks were given by Pastor Father Jason Bedel, Deacon Max Roadruck, and Michael Barclay, Associate Director of Evangelization. The topic was St Michael the Archangel. Retreat included breakfast, lunch, Reconciliation, Rosary, Mass and a visit to our own St Michael the Archangel statue, donated by the Fairborn Knights. Thanks to GK Tom Pitstick and PGK Don Shepherd for hosting.



FRATERNAL BENEFIT EVENT

On March 22, Fairborn Council hosted area K of C Council's for a Fraternal Benefit event. Brother Rob Hernandez FA made the long drive to give a very informative talk on the various policies offered by K of C insurance. Thanks to DD Jeremy Begines for helping make this possible.



PRAY THE ROSARY AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN, PLEASE COME EARLY TO THE BUSINESS MEETING (7 PM) AND PRAY THE ROSARY WITH YOUR BROTHER KNIGHTS.



NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

It is time to nominate and elect your Council Officers for the 2026 –2027 Fraternal year that starts July 1, 2026. If you are interested in running for office, sign up sheets are in the lounge.

Please start thinking about how you want to participate in the great works of this Council in the new Fraternal year. Is being a Council Officer or Director in your future? Interested in running one of our major events? Is bingo your thing? There are so many ways for all of us to participate.

Need more information, reach out to any Officer or Past Grand Knight.

KNIGHTS IN ACTION

Just when you thought you knew all the things your Brother Knights do, they surprise you! A recent Saturday morning, Brother Percy Gros was spotted cleaning and spraying a protective coating on the St Francis of Assisi statue. Brothers John Snow and Terry McCann provided the muscle to move the statue to its rightful place in the St Francis garden.



The National Museum of the US Air Force celebrated the National Vietnam War Veterans Day on Sunday with dozens of displays and many veterans available to talk about the aircrafts and telling their story. Two of Fairborn Council's many veterans were on hand to share their time and riveting stories. Thank you to PGK Larry Bogemann and Brother Harry Yarwick and all the veterans.





Respect for Life

Did you know, as Americans prepare to celebrate 250 years of independence this year, the nation's largest abortion vendor could get a massive windfall from taxpayers. Last year, Congress passed a one-year defunding of Planned Parenthood as part of the Presidents' "Big Beautiful Budget." That provision, however, **is set to expire on July 4th** – unless Congress takes action.

In 1976, pro-life Congressman Henry Hyde sponsored a rider to the annual Labor Health and Human Services (HHS) bill to prevent taxpayer funding allocated in the bill from covering elective abortion. Since 1976, 2,646,474 lives have been saved. Congress has annually enacted the Hyde Amendment and similar laws that prevent Federal funding of elective abortion, reflecting a longstanding consensus that American taxpayers should not be forced to pay for abortions. As of Sept 2025, 19 state Medicaid programs cover elective abortions, thereby circumventing the impact of the Hyde Amendment. Current Ohio law has abortion restrictions are compliant, however the ACLU is actively working to dismantle.

Earlier this year, the Knights of Columbus released their annual survey on sanctity of life issues. This poll was conducted in conjunction with Marist College. Unlike most polls conducted by other survey research firms, the Knights of Columbus/Marist poll always asks about specific policy issues of particular interest to pro-lifers. These include conscience rights and support for pregnancy resource centers.

Continued next page.

Respect for Life continued.

This year's Knights of Columbus/Marist survey of 1,408 adults showed strong support for many pro-life policy goals. It found a majority of Americans oppose taxpayer funding for abortion, and an impressive 67 percent opposed taxpayer funding for abortions overseas. Additionally, 63 percent support conscience rights for health care professionals. Most impressively, a whopping 84 percent support the work of pro-life pregnancy centers.

Every life is sacred, from the moment of conception till natural death. As Knights, we are called to defend the dignity of each human being at every stage and work together in building a culture of life and a civilization of love.

So, what can the Fairborn Knights do to oppose pro-abortion taxpayer funding initiatives?

- Participate/support the 2026 Annual Ride, Walk or Run for Life. **This event is on Sat., June 20 from 9 a.m. to noon** - Individuals, families and groups are welcome! Start location is Meadowview Shelter at CJ Brown Reservoir, up on the hill by the dam. Please call Bro. Percy Gros (937-367-6005) for details.
- Pray – never underestimate the power of prayer. Pray for the extension of the defunding of Planned Parenthood, ask the Holy Spirit to change the minds and hearts of those who advocate or seek abortions.
- Contact your congressman to encourage them to continue to defund Planed Parenthood at <https://www.congress.gov/>

America's 250th anniversary should be about celebrating Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness – not forcing taxpayers to bankroll an industry that ends innocent babies' lives.



Home Corporation (HC)



Officers of HC met on March 19, 2026, to discuss action items and pay bills. Key member interest points:

Approved the February meeting minutes.

Paid MHC Facility/Bingo rent, TV/Internet Service & Custodial fees.

Plans to Change HC By-Laws to add another member at-large position have been approved. The purpose is to always have a quorum to conduct meeting business.

This is a notification to membership of the proposal, a request for comments, and a solicitation for volunteers to fill this at-large position.

Attention..... Attention.....Attention.....Attention.....Attention

Recently there have been several occurrences where the windows were left unlocked and open in the Lounge, Membership Meeting, and Business Meeting rooms. This provides a temptation for unauthorized physical access which can lead to theft/vandalism. It can also result in weather-related damage due to wind & rain.

PLEASE, if you are the last one to leave any of the rooms or the MHC facility, check to make sure all the windows are closed and locked, make sure all exterior doors to the facility are also closed and locked. Let's keep our area safe and beautiful.

HC Raffle Ticket Drawings: Winners of our 9th HC Raffle were: \$40 winner – PGK Steve Wal, ticket # 199; the \$25 winner was Christine Rouch, ticket #27, and the \$10 winner was Paul Heckenback, ticket #85.

Reminder, should you see something that needs to be done or acquired for the benefit of the Council, note it in the Maintenance Work Log located in the business meeting room, on the right, just inside the door.
The HC is here to help Council members do whatever it can to help achieve the Council's mission.

Next HC Meeting: April 16, 2026, 7:00 PM. Meetings are open to all K of C 3724 members. For those who are interested, monthly meeting minutes can be found in the 2025/2026 Fraternal Year folder on the desktop of the K of C new computer. Select HC shortcut which will bring up HC Meeting Mins (Edwards) folder. Within this folder are the meeting minutes for each month.

Last Work Party: In addition to general cleaning, repairing 18 chairs, uncovering AC units, and the fraternity time was invaluable.

Next Work Parties: April 25, 2026 – Activities to be posted in future K of C text alerts.

The HC Officers would like to wish everyone a Blessed and joyful EASTER!



COUNCIL CALENDAR



April Events

April 2 Trustees Mtg 8:30 PM	April 5 Easter
April 8 Bingo 7 PM	April 9 Business Mtg 7:30 PM
April 12 Parish Breakfast 9:30 AM	April 13 4th Degree Mtg 7:30 PM
April 15 Bingo 7 PM	April 16 Home Corp Mtg 7 PM
April 22 Bingo	April 23 FAB Mtg 6 PM
April 23 PGK Club 7 PM	April 29 Bingo 7 PM
April 30 Blue Coat Awards 6 PM	

May Preview

5/6 Bingo, 5/7 Trustees Meeting, 5/9 Ladies Night Banquet, 5/11 4th Degree Meeting, 5/13 Bingo, 5/14 Business Meeting, 5/20 Bingo, 5/22-23-24 Ohio State Convention, 5/27 Bingo



Confused on how to be more involved in your council activities? Take a look at the upcoming calendar of all the activities and then Contact Family Director Dan Cyphers cyphershome50@gmail.com, 937-266-3507 or Retention Director Dave Johnston silkbloom1@aol.com 937-825-3576 To discuss your time and talents.

B— BASIC
I— INSTRUCTION
B— BEFORE
L— LEAVING
E— EARTH





This Month in History of Council 3724

April 1962 Articles



Interesting activities from 1962. Calls went out for help in finishing up the new baseball diamond behind MHC School.

PGK Ball was announced. PGK and spouse get free admission . Everyone else is asked to donate \$2.00 per couple. This included a 4 piece band!!



Bishop's Anniversary Mass
Diocese of Venice in Florida
Venice, Florida, March 14, 2026

Marilyn & Mark Dues with Bishop Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Venice FL diocese, on March 14, 2026, following the Mass at St. Thomas More in Sarasota where we and 275 other couples renewed our marital vows. It was a beautiful and memorable occasion! Vivat Jesus!

INSURANCE CORNER



Knights of
Columbus
Staas Agency

Livio Santos
Field Agent

Mobile: 937-317-1517
Livio.Santos@kofc.org

Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance
Retirement Annuities • Disability Income Insurance

Protecting Catholic families since 1882.



Brothers,

Trying to achieve financial strength and stability can feel overwhelming, especially when life is already full.

This month, I want to share a simpler way to think about it: holistic financial wellness. You can work toward this goal by developing an overall financial strategy and determining how Knights of Columbus products can be a part of that foundation.

A good place to start is protecting your family through life insurance. Term life coverage can help with temporary needs, while whole life coverage can last your entire lifetime and

build guaranteed cash value over time.

Next, let's think about retirement. Whether it's years away or right around the corner, having a strategy for income in retirement matters. The Knights of Columbus offers solutions that can be part of an overall plan you feel confident about.

It's also important to prepare for the unexpected. Thinking ahead about how your family would handle an extended care need or a disruption in income due to disability is part of protecting what you have worked hard to build. The Knights has products to help ensure your family's life will not be financially disrupted in either case.

Attaining financial wellness doesn't need to feel overwhelming. You can start right away by simply using our life insurance calculator at www.kofc.org/calculator. With a few key details, it will help you assess your insurance needs.

If you have any questions, please contact me to schedule a time to meet. Thank you.



GOOD OF THE ORDER



Health and Healing requests are entered into the council's prayer book prior to the business meeting. If you can't make a meeting and have a name you wish to include in the Santa Maria prayer intentions, please call the council hall and leave a message or send an email to Santamaria @3724kofc.org

Rest of the Souls:

Crew of KC-135, Catherine Lump

Health and Healing:

Addalyn Gibson, PGK Don Shepherd, Anna Gros, PGK Frank Carchedi, PGK Bill Stoddard, People of Ukraine, Military personnel in Middle East, Bill Gilbert, George Voinovich, Larry DeWitt, Fr. James Kaczmarek

PRAYER FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

Lord, look upon me with eyes of mercy, may Your healing hand rest upon me, may Your lifegiving powers flow into every cell of my body and into the depths of my soul, cleansing, purifying, restoring me to wholeness and strength for service in Your Kingdom. Amen.



Prayer intentions of the Holy Father entrusted to His worldwide Prayer Network
for the year 2026

April

Let us pray for Priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer

BUSINESS MEETING ATTENDANCE

The 2nd Thursday on each month, we pray the Rosary at 7:00 pm which is followed by our business meeting. Please attend, stay after the meeting and socialize with your Brother Knights. Every Thursday there's a Pot-of-Gold drawing. Entry fee is 50 cents and you are required to sign your name in "The Book". At 10:00 pm on the meeting night and at 9:30 pm on the other Thursdays there's a random drawing from our membership pool. The name of the winner drawn wins the Pot-of-Gold if they completed the entry requirements.

Facebook

Our council has a substantial social media presence. Please follow us and share. If you have input contact PGK Russ Milliron or PGK Grant Kempf.
<https://www.facebook.com/3724kofc>

SANTA MARIA
Grant Kempf, PGK
Santamaria@3724kofc.org

WEBMASTER
Russell Milliron, PGK
webmaster@3724kofc.org



Council 3724
Fairborn, OH

The Santa Maria is a free monthly publication of the
Fairborn Knights of Columbus Council 3724.
934 N. Maple Ave. Fairborn, Ohio 45324
937-878-2909



Council 3724
Fairborn, OH