



# Western Catholic Union

## 2025 Annual Newsletter



## Member Appreciation & Service Day

Our first Member Appreciation and Service Day was held on May 1st and 2nd. We welcomed 42 members from 9 different branches to Quincy for the event, many of whom had never been to WCU's hometown. Members that were in attendance came from various branches including Quincy, St. Louis, Westphalia, Jefferson City, Union, Linn, Krakow, Clover Bottom, Apple Creek and Ste. Genevieve.

The event kicked off with a social hour followed by dinner on Thursday evening at Town & Country Inn & Suites. Members enjoyed a slide show of photos representing the many fraternal activities organized by our members in their local communities. The members had the opportunity to network with members from other areas in and around the Midwest. They shared stories about their local branch history, their fundraising efforts and local community organizations they support.

Members were treated to an array of WCU promotional items for them to take home as souvenirs of our inaugural event.



# Member Appreciation & Service Day



Friday morning began with a continental breakfast at the hotel. The meeting was opened with prayer, followed by a welcome from President Sherri Schaefer and Mayor Elect of Quincy, Dr. Linda K. Moore. WCU Secretary-Treasurer, Matthew Bainbridge presented an overview of WCU's 2024 financials.

Members were given the opportunity to nominate a fellow member who displayed loyalty and effort on behalf of WCU in their local branch and community. The members recognized posthumously were:

Don Wiemelt	Branch 1	Quincy, IL
Jane Flachs	Branch 1	Quincy, IL
Henry Schaper	Branch 9	St Louis, MO
Jerome & Carol Pelster	Branch 253	Union, MO

The following active members were recognized and presented with a crystal award:

Becky Warning	Branch 1	Quincy, IL
Dave Bohler	Branch 9	St Louis, MO
Rosie Marquart	Branch 209	Krakov, MO
Diane VanBooven	Branch 269	Clover Bottom, MO
Lillian Lackmann	Branch 263/314	Jefferson City, MO



Fraternal Coordinator & Member Services Supervisor, Alexis Jarrett discussed branch activities and reporting. She also announced the names of our 2025-26 grade school and high school scholarship winners, which you will see later on in the newsletter. To end the presentation, members viewed a short video about the origin of Western Catholic Union and the construction of the 10-story building that was built by the founding members of our organization.



After the presentation, members dispersed to five different locations and performed a variety of community service activities in the Quincy community. Members picked up trash in the downtown Quincy area, volunteered at Horizon's Soup Kitchen & Food Pantry, worked on a landscaping project at Good Samaritan Home, worked at Sew Essentials and repaired a weathered banister at the WCU Hall. The weather proved to be beautiful and members did not have to resort to using their WCU promotional umbrellas during the outdoor community service projects.

The day concluded with a tour of the home office followed by lunch at the WCU Hall. We want to thank all of the members that attended and made our first Member Appreciation Day a great success.

We are looking forward to our next event planned for 2027 to celebrate our 150 year anniversary. All members are invited. Stay tuned for more information. Be sure to follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with what's going on at WCU!





# Member Appreciation & Service Day





# Scholarship Opportunities

Did you know that WCU provides scholarship opportunities to their members? To be eligible for our grade school or high school scholarships, the student must simply be a WCU member and be enrolled in a Catholic School for the upcoming school year (grades K-12). This year we awarded 16 grade school grants for \$500 each, and 5 high school scholarships for \$1,000 each.

**Congratulations to our scholarship winners for the 2025-2026 school year!**



Carly Entrup - Quincy, IL  
Thomas Bainbridge - Quincy, IL



Sophia Dake - Westphalia, MO  
Bentley Dake - Westphalia, MO



Arianna Castaneda - Chicago, IL  
Camila Castaneda - Chicago, IL



Nico Biagioni  
Oglesby, IL



Noah Benard  
Cape Girardeau, MO



Noah Benz  
Quincy, IL



Savannah Haley  
Quincy, IL



Lucas Frankenberg  
Union, MO



Austin Turner  
Murrysville, PA



Liviana Hamann - Quincy, IL  
Gabe Mason - Quincy, IL  
Kylie Mason - Quincy, IL  
Warrick Marshall - Quincy, IL



Mia Sullivan - Clover Bottom, MO  
Liam Bernard - Clover Bottom, MO  
Avery Pollock - Clover Bottom, MO

*Not pictured: Leila Henrichs and Timothy Obert, Jr. - both from Quincy, IL*

WCU also provides a \$2,000 renewable scholarship to members that attend a Catholic University. The current recipients of this scholarship are Hunter Hildebrand and Nolan Fleeer, both from Quincy. New applications will be accepted for the 2026-2027 school year.

For more information about scholarships and to access scholarship applications, please visit our website.



# 2024 Financial Summary

Western Catholic Union continues its proud tradition of serving members' fraternal, financial, and spiritual well-being, just as we have since 1877. In 2024, we upheld our mission by delivering strong results amid a competitive market landscape.

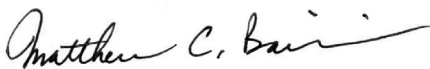
Premium revenue totaled \$30.6 million, with annuity premiums reaching \$28.7 million and life premiums contributing \$1.86 million. Net investment income added another \$8.9 million to the total revenue of nearly \$40 million.

Managing expenses remains a central focus. Despite the pressures of inflation, general and fraternal expenses were contained at \$1.95 million. Our overall operating expenses, including commissions, taxes, and other adjustments, amounted to \$3.3 million.

WCU is pleased to report we ended the year with a net income of \$823,305. After factoring in changes to capital gains, asset valuation, and other reserve adjustments, our net change in surplus and capital increased by \$411,624. As a result, our total surplus increased to \$8.1 million at year-end.

Thanks to the continued trust of our members and the dedication of our team, Western Catholic Union remains financially sound and spiritually driven. Through scholarships, grants, and charitable giving, we continue to give back, just as we have for over 148 years.

From all of us at WCU, thank you for your enduring support.



Matthew C. Bainbridge  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Revenue

Life Premiums.....	\$1,857,945
Annuity Premiums.....	\$28,703,453
Medicare Supplement Premiums.....	\$46,748
Net Investment Income.....	\$8,898,273
Commissions on Reinsurance Ceded.....	\$330,801
Miscellaneous Income.....	\$143
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$39,837,364</b>

## Member Benefits

Life Insurance Death Benefits & Matured Endowments.....	\$2,091,876
Annuity Death Benefits.....	\$6,356,618
Accident & Health Benefits.....	\$40,320
Surrender Benefits.....	\$29,841,130
SPIA Benefits.....	\$35,267
Reserve Changes.....	(\$2,671,525)
<b>Total Member Benefits</b>	<b>\$35,693,686</b>

## Operating Expenses & Capital Gains

Commissions.....	\$1,089,045
General & Fraternal Expenses.....	\$1,952,594
Insurance Taxes, Licenses & Fees.....	\$242,549
Deferred & Uncollected Premiums.....	(\$260)
Miscellaneous Reserve Adjustments.....	(\$10,608)
Dividends + Change in Accrual.....	(\$7,054)
Net Realized Capital Loss.....	\$40,000
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,320,373</b>

**2024 Net Income** **\$823,305**

2024 Net Income.....	\$823,305
Change in Unrealized Capital Gains (Losses).....	\$80,800
Change in Non-admitted Assets.....	\$232,290
Change in Asset Valuation Reserve (AVR).....	(\$178,074)
Change in Surplus as Result of Reinsurance.....	(\$116,472)
Fraternal Death Benefits Paid.....	(\$430,225)
<b>Net Change in Surplus and Capital</b>	<b>\$411,624</b>

**Surplus & Capital - December 31, 2023** **\$7,703,914**

**Surplus & Capital - December 31, 2024** **\$8,115,538**

## Sign up for our Member Portal and get 24/7 access to your policy information!

Are you too busy to call during office hours? What if you need information right away, but the office is closed? The member portal can give you the information you need, when you need it! Here are some examples of what you can find on the member portal:

- View your cash value or death benefit
- Check your beneficiaries
- Upload & Download Documents
- Access RMD Letters, Annuity Statements, or Dividend Letters
- Contact Staff

To get set up on the member portal, please email [info@wculife.org](mailto:info@wculife.org) and provide your name, email address, phone number, and certificate number (if known). We will call you at our earliest convenience and provide you with your login credentials.

**NOTE: We are currently unable to accept payments online.**



# Fraternat Activities

In 2024, our branches invested over 20,000 hours on community service events and helped raise over \$719,000 for your neighbors! In addition, WCU provided over \$32,000 in matching funds. We are proud to be able to assist our members in helping those in need for the past 148 years.



Quincy, IL - Heart Check for Tim Check Presentation



Linn, MO - Meat Raffle for Immaculate Conception School



Union, MO - Children's Games at Immaculate Conception Parish Picnic



Clover Bottom, MO - Burger Day



Apple Creek, MO - Quilt Raffle at St. Maurus Parish Breakfast



Caseyville, IL - Donation of food items to Caseyville Food Pantry



Ste. Genevieve, MO - Check presentation for VFW Dinner Dance to restore WWI Cannon



Jefferson City, MO - Breakfast for St. Thomas Church Ladies Auxiliary



Westphalia, MO - Food Stand for Folk Lucky Clovers 4H Club



Nashua, IA - WCU's newest branch in Northeast Iowa held their first meeting in March

We measure our success not only on our financial results, but by the positive impact we have on our members' families and communities. Want to get involved? Contact our Fraternal Coordinator, Alexis Jarrett, at 217-222-6425, or email [ajarrett@wculife.org](mailto:ajarrett@wculife.org) for more information. Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with what's going on at WCU!





# WESTERN CATHOLIC UNION

**A Fraternal Benefit Society Since 1877**

510 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois 62301

(800) 223-4928 – (217) 223-9721 – Fax (217) 223-9726

[www.wculife.org](http://www.wculife.org)



## PRIVACY NOTICE

Protecting the privacy of your personal information has always been a top priority for Western Catholic Union. We want to make sure that you know the steps we take to protect the privacy of the customer information we collect and, in some cases, share.

**Although we encourage you to take a few minutes to read and review this notice, no action is required on your part.**

### **What information do we collect?**

We collect nonpublic personal information about you from the following sources:

- Information we receive from you on applications or other forms;
- Information about your transactions with us, our affiliates or others; and
- Information that we may receive from a consumer reporting agency.

### **How do we use collected information?**

The information we gather helps us identify you and carry on our relationship with you. It also helps us to develop products and services that meet your needs, offer you reliable rates, and provide you with excellent customer service. We obtain and use this information only in accordance with state and federal laws. We do not sell your information to other companies for any reason. We use your information only for administrative reasons, to service your policy, and as described in this notice.

### **What information do we disclose?**

We may disclose the types of information described above with affiliates and unaffiliated third parties for the purpose of servicing your insurance needs. For example, disclosures may be made to certain third parties who either perform functions or services on our behalf or when required by law. These are some examples of third parties that we may share your information with:

- Reinsurers, other insurance companies, and insurance support organizations;
- Insurance departments or other federal, state or local legal authorities;
- Regulatory agencies, other governmental entities, and law enforcement agencies;
- Authorized persons by way of a subpoena, warrant or other court order; and
- Others for the purposes of complying with auditing and reporting requirements.

### **What security procedures are used?**

We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards in place to guard against unauthorized access, disclosure or use of your information. We restrict access to nonpublic personal information about you to those of our employees who need to know that information to provide products or services to you. We permit only staff, trained in the proper handling of policyholder information, to have access to that information. We are, and will continue to be, vigilant in the safeguarding of your personal financial and medical information.

It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate, and up-to-date records. You may contact us at the address or telephone number above to access, as provided by law, information included in your file. We will promptly correct any and all errors in our information, as needed. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth, and social security number.

### **Changes to This Notice:**

We have the right to update this notice at any time, and the changes we make will apply to all information we collect about you. We will provide you with a copy of any new notice as required by law.





Western Catholic Union  
510 Maine St.  
Quincy IL 62301

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 143  
Quincy, Illinois

## Current Annuity Rates

### 7-year Flex - **5.85%** (for first year only)

#### Flexible Premium Annuity

*FLEX rate shown is First Year Guaranteed Rate.*

##### **FLEX 7**

###### Premium Amount

\$50,000 & Up: **5.85%**  
\$10,000 - \$49,999: **5.70%**  
\$2,000 - \$9,999: **4.70%**

##### **FLEX 5**

###### Premium Amount

\$50,000 & Up: **5.50%**  
\$10,000 - \$49,999: **5.35%**  
\$2,000 - \$9,999: **4.35%**

##### **FLEX 2**

###### Premium Amount

\$2,000 & Up: **3.25%**

#### Multi-Year Guarantee Annuity

##### **5 Year MYGA**

**4.50%**

##### **4 Year MYGA**

**4.35%**

##### **3 Year MYGA**

**4.20%**

*Rates subject to change. Available in IA, IL, MD, MO, OH, PA, TX, WV & WI*

### **Give your child or grandchild the gift that keeps on giving with WCU's Guardian Angel Plan!**

A one-time premium payment of \$125 or \$250 purchases \$10,000 or \$20,000 of life insurance coverage through age 25. Once the insured reaches age 25, they are eligible to convert to a whole life plan for up to 5 times the original face amount, regardless of their health. Don't miss out on this valuable lifetime gift at an affordable price!

Contact your local WCU Agent or  
Carolyn Yates in the Home Office at 1-877-928-1877.

[www.wculife.org](http://www.wculife.org)