

Lucas Volkman joined the Knights of Columbus in 2000, as a member of Council 2782 at the University of Illinois in Champaign. He became a Fourth Degree Knight in 2002.

Lucas was elected Deputy Grand Knight of Council 2782 in 2001 and Grand Knight later that year. With the help of his Brother Knights, the council grew from being a small group of dedicated men to one of the leading college councils in the Order, as well as being a vital organization at the University of Illinois Newman Center. In the process, Council 2782 welcomed over 100 new members, achieved Star Council, and was ultimately awarded the Supreme Outstanding College Council Award in 2004. Lucas also served as a sacristan at the Newman Center, helping to not only set up for mass, but to oversee the student liturgical ministries.

Relocating to Missouri in 2004 for graduate school at the University of Missouri, Lucas joined Council 7231, at the Newman Center in Columbia. After helping to form a First Degree team for the council, Lucas was elected Grand Knight in 2005, serving three terms in the role. With the aid of his Brother Knights while Grand Knight, the council grew in numbers and achieved Star Council and won a Supreme College Council Program Award. Lucas was also vice-chair and ultimately chair of the parish council at the Newman Center. Additionally, Lucas served in a variety of roles in Msgr. Flood Assembly 583, including as Scribe and Comptroller, and formerly as a member of the Honor Guard. He was the Faithful Navigator from 2012-14, where he helped organize the first Fourth Degree Exemplification held in Columbia for some time.

In 2008, Lucas began his service as a District Deputy, being appointed by State Deputy Greg Stratman. He was reappointed by State Deputy John Appelbaum in 2010. That year Lucas also began his work as a Conferring Officer of the Third Degree, advancing over 1500 members

to full Knighthood in that role through 2019, when the old ceremony was retired by Supreme in favor of the current Combined Degree. While District Deputy, Lucas received the Outstanding District Deputy Award from the State Council.

State Deputy Brad Grill appointed Lucas to his first chairmanship in 2012, over the Columbian Squires and Columbus Girls programs within Missouri. During his time in that position, a new circle was started at Fr. Tolton High School in Columbia. The next year State Deputy Grill made Lucas the Leadership Academy Chairmen for the State, a role State Deputy Keith Milson reappointed him to in 2014 and 2015. In that position Lucas went throughout Missouri helping train council leaders. Additionally, in 2015 Lucas was elected as a delegate to the Supreme Convention in Philadelphia.

During 2016 Lucas was appointed to his first state directorship, as Youth Director, by State Deputy Joe Rosenthal. As Youth Director, Lucas oversaw programs that resulted in Supreme international winners in the Soccer, Free Throw, and Poster Contests, along with an expansion in the Coats for Kids donations in Missouri. In 2018, State Deputy Bob Hawkins made Lucas the Faith Director, overseeing many of the State's spiritual efforts, as Supreme's Faith in Action program was implemented.

Lucas was selected as Program Director by State Deputy Mike Grudzinski in 2020. Helping State Deputy Grudzinski in his effort to steer the State through the Covid shutdowns, Lucas helped with innovations in our efforts and introduced the District Deputy Monthly Zoom meetings to keep the DDs apprised on happenings within the State.

In 2022, State Deputy Doug Kissinger appointed Lucas to his prior role as State Membership Director. During the 2022-23 fraternal year Missouri made its Supreme Circle of

Honor membership intake goal for the first time in 14 years, demonstrating the hard work put in by the Membership Team and DDs, as the State surpassed 43,000 members. Subsequently in the 2023-24 fraternal year, through the continued work of the Membership Team and the DDs, the State was awarded Circle of Honor from Supreme, the first time Missouri had been given the award since the 2008-09 fraternal year. That year saw the Order grow to 43,525 members in Missouri, the largest it has ever been.

In 2024 the Missouri State Convention elected Lucas as State Secretary, under State Deputy Michael Auchly, a role he is seeking to be reelected to in 2025. As State Secretary, Lucas has performed everything within the role of that office, while helping develop the new website.

Lucas married his wife Crissy in 2018, and they are the parents of Joseph, who was born a couple years later. Members of Sacred Heart Parish in Columbia, both Lucas and Crissy are on the Liturgy Commission, where Lucas serves as chair. Crissy is also a member of parish council and the founding president of the Sacred Heart Ladies Auxiliary. Lucas has also held a variety of roles in Sacred Heart Council 14414, including as a member of the Combined Degree Team.

Professionally, Lucas is a historian, having earned his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri in 2012. He is a Professor of History at Moberly Area Community College, where he was the chairman of the Faculty Senate from 2020-2022. Lucas is the author of several articles, including the book *Houses Divided: Evangelical Schisms and the Crisis of the Union in Missouri*, published by Oxford University Press in 2018, which examines the Protestant denominational splits over slavery in Civil War era Missouri. Currently, he is working on a book project dealing with the modernist crisis in the British and American Catholic churches at the turn of the previous century.