

**Living Water Via de Cristo News
August 2011 Issue 157**

~Ultreya News and Upcoming Dates~

The August 13th Ultreya

Will be hosted by:

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2900 Avenue of the Cities
Moline Illinois 61265
309-762-5423**

Here are the directions

1. From Interstate I-80 take the I-74 exit towards Davenport
2. Exit at Avenue of the Cities
3. Turn right onto Avenue of the Cities
4. Go 4 blocks and turn right onto 29th Street

**Potluck begins at 5:30 with services to follow
Bring a dish to share and your own table service
Nursery is provided for children up to age 5**

LAY DIRECTOR(S) ...

“Nothing speaks more powerfully than what Christ did in you.” --Sper

“Ultreya! Onward!” seems to be an appropriate greeting as we assume our new post as your lay directors for Living Water Via de Cristo (a big “thank you” to those who have completed their term of service). We feel a bit overwhelmed at the prospect of taking a leadership role with VdC, but we also know that God has quite an impressive track record of making lemonade from lemons. So we’re trusting in His plan – and *your prayers* – as we take this dive into Living Water. And how refreshing it is!

In addition to the changing of the guard, there are some exciting new developments at LW, including a pending move to a new camp for the Spring 2012 weekends. The plan is to be “testing the Water(s)” at Camp Menno Haven in Tiskilwa, Ill., a facility currently used by VdC’s Way of Christ movement. The good news is that it should be more easily accessible – especially by our Princeton-area contingent; it requires less walking; and it has some delightfully “homey” accommodations. The downside is that it costs more to rent than our current camp. In order to keep the weekends affordable for our new Pilgrims (and the team members who serve them) we are looking for creative ways to boost funding for this important lay movement. One great suggestion is to join the Quad-Cities’ John Deere Golf Classic’s “Birdies for Charity” program. Another is to set up our Web site to accept credit card donations online (no more scrounging for an envelope and stamp). We’ll be looking into these, but I know there are other ideas out there worth crowing about. A Babe-Chick Bake Sale maybe? A Rooster Relay? Let us know all about them!

We know money is as tight as Spanx on a walrus these days, but we want to make certain no one misses an opportunity to attend a VdC weekend because the budget won’t allow it. Can you ever forget how your weekend was for you? It’s been over 13 years in my case, and the memory of it still fills me with joy. Yes, brothers and sisters, we have all been blessed to be awash in the “Son-shine” of awakening faith through this movement we call Living Water. We have experienced His grace in buckets. And we have known Christian love, lavishly poured out upon us by imperfect strangers. What, then, is our response?

We cannot even begin to pay it back, nor can we “buy” faith, for ourselves or anyone else. But our generous gifts can help ensure that those who are seeking a closer walk with Christ will continue to encounter Him here at Living Water, and that they will go forward ... walking soaked through their socks in the Spirit!

GLYASDW!

Barb and Joe Geerts

RECTOR/RECTORA...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As we write this letter, it's hard to believe that our first team meeting is fast approaching. We have been reminded constantly by Matthew 18:20 which says "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." This verse reminds us that God has been with us during team selection and will continue to walk with us at each of our team meetings preparing us for weekend #44. This is so comforting to know.

We have been truly blessed by those that have said yes to God's call. We do know that God had already chosen the team for weekend #44 and now it is time for us to start praying about candidates for the weekend. Take time to talk to God about that person whose name has been placed upon your heart. Remember as one of our Rollos says – talk to God about the person before you talk to the person about God.

We have also been reminded that when it looks like everything is going well, watch out! As in so many teams before us, this is where Satan starts to try and cause problems for the up coming weekend, for those serving at the camp and for those who have been called as candidates for the weekend. With the entire VDC community as part of this team we need to pray daily for every aspect of the up coming weekend and keep Satan behind us and let God lead us through this exciting journey.

We ask for prayers for each of our team meetings: 1st meeting: August 20th – St. John's Peru, 2nd meeting: September 3rd – Prince of Peace, Davenport, Overnighter: September 16/17 – St. Matthew's, Princeton and 4th meeting – October 1st – First Lutheran – Geneseo.

GLY&SDW,
Jeff & Linda Berry Rector and Rectora
Jeff Whalen, Head Cha

PRE-WEEKEND CHAIR...

As we are called to ministry in our church families, we are also called to a mission in the world. A mission to those who not only don't know Christ yet, but also to our fellow believers that they don't fall away or get lost. Weren't we taught that Christianity isn't lived in isolation, but in community? You are that community, we are that Community. Our prayer is that as Living Waters Via de Cristo weekend #44 is soon approaching that we remember that we are called. Remember that before your weekend that God called you? He may have done it through someone else, but, that person loved you so much that they were there for you when you needed. Don't you want to be that reflecting Christ's love to someone that you love or care about? Are we missing a call to Act?

As the mixed weekend is coming up we are accepting the candidates' applications as they come in. We send out acceptance letters and letters to the sponsors who sponsor them. We are excited to see not only the willingness of the candidate to say yes, but also the willingness to act as a sponsor of a candidate. We pray that in the next few days and weeks that you will strongly meditate on those people that you care about deeply enough to pray for to attend a weekend. We say pray for because if God has put them on your heart to consider asking to attend a weekend, you should pray about it before you act. Please pray also for the team of weekends #44 and for Rectora Linda and Rector Jeff that God continues to prepare us to act in service to Him. Please pray for the candidates that are to come.

God Bless,

Amy Peterson

Pre-weekend Chair

#24

POST WEEKEND CHAIR...

Greetings to All!

I am so honored to be able to fill the vacancy of your Post-Weekend Chair for the Via de Cristo community! If any of you have ideas and/or comments to help my learning process, please feel free to contact me. I welcome your input and look forward to meeting so many more of my brothers and sisters within the Via de Cristo family at the upcoming Ultreyas!

The next Ultreya will be held on August 13th at Calvary Lutheran Church, 2900 Avenue of the Cities, Moline, Illinois.

The November Ultreya will be on November 5th at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 416 E. Dover Road, Princeton, Illinois.

God's Peace and Blessings!

Diana Wallace #42

PALANCA CHAIRS...

The prayer vigil for the fall weekend is posted. It can be accessed at
<http://3dayol.org/Vigil/GetVigil.phtml?pvid=5930&commid=575>
Or through our website at: www.livingwaterviadecristo.org

Jim and Patty Turner
Palanca Chairs

COMMUNICATIONS...

E-mails for prayer requests, joys and thanksgivings to be shared with the community can be emailed to either: prayers@livingwaterviadecristo.org or qcharts@sbcglobal.net
Or call: 309-792-9030
Check out our website: www.livingwaterviadecristo.org

In His service,
Cindy Hart
Communications Chair

**Application for the Lutheran Spiritual Renewal Movement
Affiliated with the Illowa Lutheran Coalition**

I. Applicant Information *(Please print. Return application to sponsor when completed.)*

Full name _____ Age (18 minimum) _____ Male _____
Female _____

Name or nickname you would like on name tag _____ Home phone () _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Occupation _____ Work phone () _____ E-mail _____

Home church _____ Denomination _____

Church address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church phone () _____ Pastor's name _____

Contact person (*other than spouse*): Name _____ Phone () _____

Tell us about your current church involvement - activities, positions held, etc. (*Attach sheet if needed.*)

Please note any special medical or dietary needs, physical limitations, or sleeping arrangements needed:

Marital Status: Single _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____ Married _____ Spouse's name _____

If married, spouse: has _____, will _____, will not _____, attend(ed) a Via de Cristo or similar weekend
(*Spouses are encouraged to attend consecutive weekends.*)

Weekend you wish to attend _____ Would you be available on short notice if a cancellation occurs? _____

Applicant's signature _____ Date _____

II. Pastor's Signature *(See information on back.)*

As the applicant's pastor, I offer my support and prayers for my parishioner's participation in this opportunity for growth as a Christian leader.

Signed _____

III. Sponsor's Information *(To be filled in by sponsor.)*

Sponsor's name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone () _____ Work () _____ Are you involved in a reunion group? _____

Date & location of your VdC or other weekend _____ Weekend number _____

Note to the applicant’s pastor:

This member from your congregation has applied to attend an upcoming Via de Cristo weekend sponsored by the Illowa Lutheran Coalition. These weekends are designed to provide faith renewal for Christians by grounding them more fully in God’s grace and in the disciplines of prayer, study and service. It is our hope that participants in the weekend will return to their home parishes renewed and better equipped to serve their church as leaders. Therefore we expect participants in the weekend to be active members of their church. Like Marriage Encounter, which seeks to strengthen healthy marriages rather than heal troubled ones, Via de Cristo is designed to strengthen faith rather than provide spiritual conversion for a struggling Christian. In addition, it is our hope that married persons will be able to attend consecutive weekends so that they can share the experience together. This can be a very positive thing. If one partner is unable to do this, but could at a later date, we encourage the couple to wait. If one partner simply doesn’t want to attend a weekend and is unlikely to ever do so in the future, then we wish to know whether or not you as their pastor have any concerns about the impact of the weekend on their marriage.

If you do not have any concerns about your parishioner’s involvement in this weekend, we ask for your signature of support. If you have any apprehension, we would appreciate hearing from you in writing. If you wish to talk further to one of our spiritual directors concerning Via de Cristo, please call Pastor Randy Willers at 309-764-5614. Thank you for taking this under consideration.

Sponsor’s Checklist:

- _____ The applicant’s portion of the application (Part I) is complete.
- _____ The applicant’s check is attached.
- _____ The applicant’s pastor has signed the application (Part II).
- _____ I believe this applicant will benefit from a Via de Cristo weekend.
- _____ I have read the responsibilities of the sponsor and agree to abide by them.

Sponsor’s signature _____ Date _____

Please return the completed application, along with a non-refundable deposit of \$25 (make checks payable to Living Water Via de Cristo), to the Pre-Weekend Chair:

Amy Peterson
318 Elm Place
Princeton, Illinois 61356
815-872-5703

The deposit will be applied to the suggested contribution of \$110.00. Financial assistance is available when needed. **Applications should be sent at least five weeks prior to the weekend.**

Thank you for helping to expand the reach of the VdC movement.

Illowa Lutheran Coalition
 Augustana College
 639 – 38th Street,
 Rock Island, IL 61201

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID Rock Island, IL 61201 PERMIT NO. 224

Return Service Requested

Living Water Via de Cristo Secretariat Members 2011-2012

Lay Director: Joe and Barb Geerts	563-322-2847	ezwriter@netins.net
Assistant Lay Directors: Dennis Mellgren	309-582-4860	dmellgren@mercerschools.org
Spiritual Director: Pastor Randy Willers	309-764-5614	rwillers@qconline.com
Asst. Spiritual Director: Pastor Terrie Wilder	815 677-3444	tfwilder@comcast.net
Treasurer: Lisa Vincent	815-875-9123	glvin922@frontier.com
Secretary: Barb Holder	309-582-5277	bjholder@frontiernet.net
Pre-Weekend: Amy Peterson	815-872-5703	pete318@comcast.net
Weekend: Vacant		
Kitchen: Tom and Wanda Nelson	815-875-3185	twdlnel@frontier.com
Post-Weekend: Diana Wallace	815-875-4391	diana.wallace_3691@yahoo.com
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