

Living Waters Via de Cristo Newsletter

December 2010 Issue 153

!!! DECEMBER ULTREYA!!!

A desserts and hors d'oeuvres only Ultreya will be December 4th and will be hosted at:

Salem Lutheran

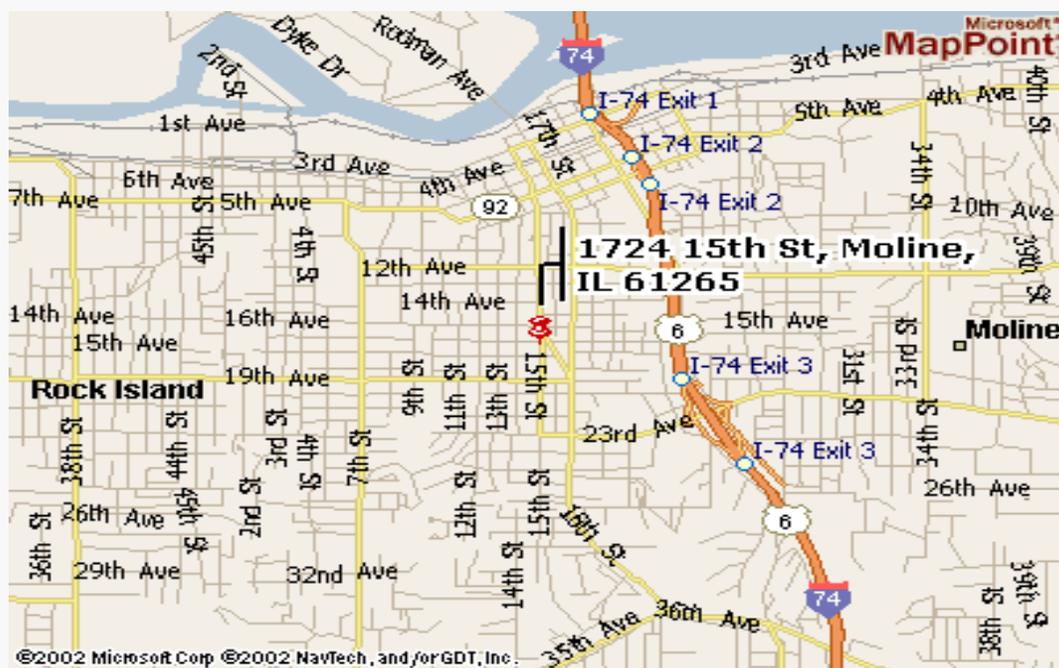
1724 15th St.

Moline, Illinois 61265

309-764-5614

See map below:

The Service will begin at **5 p.m.** with fellowship and desserts/hors d'oeuvres immediately following.



Upcoming dates:

Continuing education January 15th, 2011 Continuing Education Class in Princeton, Il.
More information in Newsletter

The Spring Weekend #43 dates are as follows:

Men's March 31st – April 3rd Women's April 7th – April 10th

Retreat Site: Rock River Christian Camp, Polo, Illinois

Team Training Dates: January 29, February 12,

February 25-26-men overnight, March 4-5-women overnight, March 19, 2010

Training sessions at 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., overnight begins at 7 PM on Friday.

FROM THE LAY DIRECTORS . . .

Greetings to all,

The fall mixed weekend is over. There was great excitement and joy in seeing all those who participated in weekend 42. It seems like a time to relax a little before we start to prepare for the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. As we prepare for those events, especially Christmas let all of us remember the great gift God has given us, His only Son to come into our lives and give us the gift of eternal life, Be thankful for His gift of Grace.

We also need to remember that this is the time to start preparations for the men's and women's weekend # 43. Hal Gustafson and Lisa Vincent need your support as they begin to make the calls to build God's team for weekend 43. Please keep them in your prayers. Also, pray for those candidates that will be attending the weekend. We need to be bold as we let God lead us to those whom we will ask to attend weekend # 43. Pray first to God about those you have in mind and then ask them to attend. Share what Christ has done for you and what a difference the weekend has made in your life. Let them see Christ through you.

March 31st and April 7th may seem to be far off but the weekend will be here before we know it. As the community of believers, we need to do our part in any way possible to help weekend # 43. Put those dates on your calendar now. Remember Christ is counting on you and you can count on Him.

Have a Merry Christmas.

Your Lay Directors, Pam and Gary Gross

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR...

Encountering God's Love

The location of our weekends seems to hold special significance to us. I notice it when people introduce themselves with their name, weekend and table and sometimes include mention of *where* their weekend was held. Over the past 20 years, Living Water has conducted weekends at many different locations. The first four weekends of Living Water were conducted in the Villa de Chantel, a former Catholic school that at the time was the place where the Cursillo weekends were being held. It served us well, even with clanking heat pipes and futon beds, until we found out that the nuns were selling the property and it would no longer be available for weekends. The secretariat had to look for a new home.

That next home was St. Mark's Lutheran Church in downtown Davenport. It was adequate for the next year, but difficult because of the need to work around Sunday morning activities at the church. So a new search began. We ended up for many years rotating between Pilgrim Park near Princeton, IL and Camp Abe Lincoln at Buffalo, IA. There have been other locations, but for the past year the weekends have been held at Rock River Christian Camp near Polo, IL. While we have made RRCC work for us, the secretariat is always evaluating and considering other options for a new place to conduct the weekends.

(Continued on next page)

As we come upon the Christmas season, we remember a husband and wife who had to travel at the end of a pregnancy. When they arrived at their destination, they had difficulty finding a place to lodge. The best places were filled, but there was one opening. They ended up in a stable, in other words a barn for animals. Not exactly a good place for them to stay, but it was all they could get. Yet, it was in this place that the birth took place, and Jesus was born. It was here that the lowly shepherds (considered unclean by the religious folks) were given a glimpse of their salvation. It was a little later that certain gentiles arrived after considerable travel. The Magi were also considered unclean, though wise in their own country. There they had an opportunity to worship and offer gifts to this new king. It was in this unlikely place that the most unlikely people encountered God's love.

The secretariat will continue to use the best place available to hold the weekends, because God gave us brains to use so we can be good stewards. But the birth of Jesus tells us something. No matter where we end up having the weekends, we still give people the opportunity to encounter God's love in a very real way. God will direct us to those places where we can make God's love as real and as special as the delivery of a newborn baby. And as we have all experienced, this happens whether we are a candidate or a team member.

There is one other thing to remember. While we encounter this love in the weekends, we also find it in our local churches. When we gather in community each week, Jesus is also present. We find God's love and grace in the reading of the Word, and in the sharing of the sacraments. Then God's love is carried out to the world through our ministries, where we bring God's love to the ill, the poor, the needy, and the lonely. When we work to bring God's love to these people -wherever they are - God's love is again encountered by the most unlikely people in the most unlikely places. But that again shows the great extent of God's love for us all. May you all encounter this great love of God during this joyous season! Merry Christmas to you all!

- GLYASDI, *Pastor Randy*

FROM THE RECTOR...

Dear Fellow VdCer's,

I am privileged and honored to serve as your Rector on Weekend #43. I would like to ask you all to pray for the weekend, ask people to consider coming and pray over them. I also ask that you would consider serving on team. Please fill out a team application and send it in. I feel honored to be doing God's work on #43. Come join me as part of the team. Being His hands and feet to spread His word throughout our communities. This movement has truly helped me and my family. I encourage all of you to lift this weekend up to Him so we may do so for many others.

God Loves You And So Do I
Rector Hal Gustafson

FROM THE RECTORA...

Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your glorious name...

Do those words sound familiar? They are from the song "Blessed be Your Name" by Matt Redman. On my way home tonight from our community Thanksgiving service that song was playing on the radio and once again I was reminded of how truly blessed we are to have a relationship with our Lord and Savior. To know of the peace and comfort that comes from our sins being forgiven because of His unconditional love for us. As shown by God giving His only son, Jesus Christ, for us so that we might have new life in Him. Mark 10:45 says, "For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." Jesus lived a life of service. Teaching us by His example to be disciples; little Christ's to the world. For everything He has given us, how can we say no to Him?

I am very humbled and blessed to be serving as your Rectora for weekend 43. I ask that you prayerfully consider coming along on this journey by serving on team, to meet new sisters in Christ and to renew old friendships. Team applications are available online at www.livingwaterviadecristo.org or in this newsletter. Soon we will be celebrating the birth of a son whose name shall be called Immanuel, meaning God with us. In Matthew 18:20 we read, "For where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them." God promises to be present and I thank God for all who answer **His** call to be His hands and feet by serving on team 43.

Blessed be **His** Glorious name!
Rectora Lisa Vincent

FROM THE LEADERS CHAIR...

Continuing Education Class offered January 15, 2011

Ever wonder about the rest of the LWVdC story? Want to serve on a LWVdC Team? Attending the next Continuing Education Class will help answer both of these questions. Mark your calendars now for the January 15th, 2011 Continuing Education Class in Princeton, IL. We will meet at the Evangelical Covenant Church, 24 North Main in Princeton, IL. From 10 am.-12 noon. Please RSVP to alfaff@frontier.com or call 815-872-1178 so we will have enough materials for all who wish to attend. Please note that one time attendance is required before serving on team. Feel free to email with questions or concerns. All are welcome. See you there!

Arnie and Anne Faber
Leaders

FROM 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

Living Water via de Cristo

Continuing Education

Saturday, January 15th, 2011
10:00a.m. - 12 noon

**Evangelical Covenant Church, 24 North Main Street,
Princeton, Illinois**

Purpose of Continuing Education

- To go over the events of the retreat and place them in the context of the dynamics of the weekend
- To emphasize the importance of sponsorship and palanca to the success of the weekend
- To affirm the reality that the retreats are held to provide the Fourth Day, and that group reunion, attending Ultreyas, and spiritual direction are the Cursillo methods means of ensuring perseverance in the faith
- To introduce the role of the Secretariat in providing the retreats and the Fourth Day experience
- To remind new pilgrims that Via de Cristo is *one* of the tools used to further the mission of the local congregation and the larger Church.

Complete the form below. Make reservations now for your place at the next Continuing Education Meeting using any of the following means:

Mail: Complete the bottom of this form and mail to Anne and Arnold Faber, Leaders Chair
407 Bryant Circle Drive, Princeton, IL 61356

Email: alfaff@frontier.com. Please put "VDC Continuing Ed" in the subject and include the information asked for in the form in your email

Call: 815-872-1178 and leave a message with the information asked for in the form below.

Name _____ Weekend attended _____

Address _____ Telephone or email _____

Living Water Via de Cristo

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 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 Chairs:

Jerry and Krista Hanson
1624 S. Main
Princeton, IL 61356
815-875-2359

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.

Living Water Via de Cristo Team Participation

Weekend#43: Men's Weekend March 31-April 3, 2011 Women's Weekend April 7-10, 2011

Retreat Site: Rock River Christian Camp, Polo, Illinois*

Team Training Dates: January 29, February 12, February 25-26-men overnight, March 4-5-women overnight, March 19, 2010
Training sessions at 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., overnight begins at 7 PM on Friday.

Location of team trainings will be announced later. All team members should, regardless of experience, attend **all** team meetings. ****Continuing Education class is required for first time team members. Training sessions are only offered twice a year.**

I understand that as a team member I will be expected to:

- attend the training sessions in their entirety, except by special arrangement with the Rector/a:
- regularly worship and participate in local church activities:
- be active in a reunion group.

_____ I would like to submit my talents, my prayer support, and myself for Living Water VdC Weekend #43

Served on any previous team? () Yes () No

If "yes", my last team service was on Weekend # _____

My special talents: (music, guitar, kitchen experience, etc) _____

Reunion Group Participation () Yes () No *All team members are requested to be involved with an active reunion group to serve on team.*

My home congregation is: _____ in _____

Because of physical limitations or dietary needs, if I serve on team, I will need the following accommodations: _____

_____ I am trained and certified for CPR. _____ I hold a food service license, issued by _____

_____ I am unable to serve on team, but would be willing to be a prayer warrior for #41

_____ I am willing to help set-up on Thursday afternoon or tear-down on Sunday afternoon of the weekend.

Name: _____ e-mail address (optional) _____

Address _____ telephone #: () _____ Cell # () _____

* RRCC is a smoke-free facility

Thank you for your willingness to serve the Lord through this renewal weekend. Please return this form to the following leaders by **_11_/_30_/ 2011** . *Application submission does not guarantee placement on team, only willingness to be called.*

Please submit your application to:

**Rector
Hal Gustafson
17 Hickory Hills
Geneseo, IL 61254
309-441-5860**

**Rectora
Lisa Vincent
814 Bruce Lane
Princeton, IL 61356
815-875-9123**

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 2010-2011

Lay Director: Gary and Pam Gross	309-797-5561	ggross@qconline.com
Assistant Lay Directors: Dennis Mellgren	309-582-2419	
Spiritual Director: Pastor Randy Willers	309-764-5614	rwillers@qconline.com
Spiritual Director:		
Treasurers: Lisa Vincent	815-875-9123	Glvin922@verizon.net
Secretary: Barb Holder	309-582-5277	bjholder@frontiernet.net
Pre-Weekend: Jerry and Krista Hanson	815-875-2359	jandkhanson@msn.com
Weekend: Paul Baker	815-223-2095	ptb1818@gmail.com
Kitchen: Tom and Wanda Nelson	815-875-3185	twdlnel@verizon.net
Post-Weekend: Bruce and Valerie Daniel	309-798-9494	grdma1@hotmail.com
Leaders: Arnie and Anne Faber	815-872-1178	alfaff@verizon.net
Palanca: Jim and Patti Turner	309-945-5538	jpt@theinter.com
Communications: Cindy Hart	309-792-9030	prayers@livingwaterviadechristo.org