

# Living Water Via De Cristo News January/February 2012 Issue 160

## ULTREYA

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2012**  
**First Lutheran Church Geneseo**  
**114 E. Main St, Geneseo, IL 61254**

**(309) 944-3196**

**Please note the change in the day and times:**

**Our service will be first, starting at 3:30 P.M. followed by our potluck at 5:00 P.M. Couples bring one dish to pass, families bring two. Coffee, water, and ice are provided by the host church, but any other drinks will need to be brought by the community. Babysitting will be available for children up to 5 years old.**



### **Upcoming training dates are:**

**Saturday January 14<sup>th</sup> @ First Lutheran in Geneseo**

**Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup> @ First Lutheran Princeton**

**Men's overnight is Friday evening, February 10th - Saturday February 11th @ First Lutheran Geneseo**

**Women's overnight is Friday evening February 17th - Saturday February 18th @ St. Matthew's in Princeton**

**Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup> @ Calvary in Moline**

**The Spring Weekends #45 Dates are as Follows:  
Men's Weekend March 15 - 18, 2012  
Women's Weekend March 22- 25, 2012**

Living Water Via de Cristo will be changing camps. The spring weekend will be held at Camp Menno Haven just outside of Tiskilwa Illinois. The new location is very accommodating and should fit us very nicely. It is completely handicap accessible so please be thinking of those friends and loved ones that you may have not asked in the past due to logistics of the past camps. Menno Haven would also be a nice camp for our elderly friends to attend a weekend as well. So be praying about those people that God may be placing on your hearts to attend weekend #45.

Due to the change of campsite, like most things these days, the cost for the weekend has increased to \$135.00. But, the accommodations and location of the camp will hopefully make it a welcomed increase. May God bless us on our new location and upcoming weekends. See map and directions below to new camp.



**Camp Menno Haven, 9301 1575 E. Street, Tiskilwa IL 61368, (815-646-4344)**

**From Tiskilwa:**

1. Head west on **Co Rd 4/E Main St** toward **S Sycamore St. 0.2 mi.**
2. Take the 3rd right onto **1800 E St/N Galena St. 0.2 mi.**
3. Take 2nd left onto **Brewster St/Co Rd 23 2.3 mi.**
4. Slight left to stay on **Co Rd 23 0.1 mi.**
5. Continue onto **1575 E St/Co Rd 1575 E 0.7 mi.**
6. **Going south on 1575 E. St**, the camp will be on the right just beyond Minno Haven Lake.

## LAY DIRECTOR(S) ...

Well, it's a new year, and you've probably already broken at least one resolution – if you made any at all. I've pretty much given up on making resolutions. When it comes to embarking on a self-improvement project, the only Resolve I seem to have these days comes in a handy spray bottle.

I'm guessing a lot of you have the same problem. That's why similar resolutions seem to pop up year after year: Lose a few pounds; get off the couch and into a fitness routine; carve out more time together as a family; show more kindness to others .... Most resolutions are directed at ourselves, but some may involve tackling outside projects we've been putting off for years, like organizing that long-neglected closet.

New Year's Resolutions are rooted in the realization that we can and should do better. There are bad habits from which we'd love to be freed, and some God-given talents we know we should be dusting off and using for a good purpose. Who doesn't long for a change, an opportunity to start fresh, and "get it right" this time around? The dawn of a new year, with all its promise and possibilities, seems the perfect time to renew and redo: Out with the old and in with the new.

But for Christians, resolving to make positive changes isn't merely a January 1 tradition. It's something we need to commit to each new day. We may not always succeed, but it should always be our goal.

Living as "Children of Light" is a lot like clearing out that closet and getting rid of what no longer "fits." In Ephesians, Chapter 4, Paul tells us to "put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires," and "put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

What are you wearing these days? Have you resolved to "put on the new self," the regal robe of a Christ like appearance? Or are you still lazing around in the ragged sweatpants of old sin? With help from the Holy Spirit, we can make a daily commitment to putting off that which no longer becomes us as Christians, and becoming the new person God knows we can be, dressed ever so "suitably."

May your New Year be filled with countless blessings from above, and your families surrounded by God's perfect love.

GLYASDW!

Barb & Joe Geerts

## POST WEEKEND CHAIR...

*Mark 12: 29-31 "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength This is the first commandments. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.'"*

Greetings and Happy New Year! As we make our New Year's resolutions, I sincerely hope that you will find time to pray about our upcoming Spring Retreats and think of whom you can sponsor, along with making a commitment to attend our upcoming Ultreyas! A great way to continue the ongoing friendships we have ourselves made through serving on team and showing our love for our neighbors! The next Ultreya will be held on **Sunday, February 12, 2012** at First Lutheran Church in Geneseo, Illinois. Yes – Sunday...not a "miss-print". We will be having the February Ultreya on a Sunday afternoon to allow First Lutheran in Geneseo to so graciously host the event. They are excited about hosting their first Ultreya so I hope many of you can come! We will be having worship service at 3:30 P.M. with the potluck starting at 5:00 P.m. and I hope to see many of your smiling faces!

Wishing all of you a very happy and prosperous 2012!

Diane Wallace LWVDC #42

Post Weekend Chair

## **RECTOR...**

Hi Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A Blessed and Happy New Year to you.

Reflecting back over 2011, I'm reminded of how many things I intended to do but didn't do. It makes me so thankful for the New Year. It renews my energy with a fresh start, new beginnings and new blessings to come (Thank you Lord!).

Then my mind wanders to New Year resolutions. Instantly the regular two come to my mind. Lose weight and spend more time on my relationship with Christ. The first one last about two weeks to a month because my love of good tasting food over shadows the other good that would come with losing weight. But like a typical Bears fans, there's always next year!

Thankfully on the second one, my love for the Lord and the graciousness of the Holy Spirit, over come the laziness and selfishness of my personal desires. I am looking so forward to spending more time with and sharing Christ with more people this year.

With all that said, I'm (and my faithful head cha Bruce also) are so looking forward to the upcoming VDC weekend in March. We both are so looking forward to the new relationships with the pilgrims and team members. Were so grateful to those who are asking and sponsoring candidates. Were so grateful to those who said yes to teaming on the weekend and for those who are praying for the weekend. Were so looking forward to working with each of you.

If your resolution (or desire, if you don't make resolutions) include sharing Christ with more people this year, I give you this encouragement and challenge. Think seriously about the weekend coming up. What a way to share Christ with others. Think of what your weekend meant to you. What the community of fellow Christians means to you. What your reunion brothers and sisters means to you. THEN, Pray about who you can share that with. Who do you know that would like to get closer to Christ?

Here's the challenge part. PRAY about whom God would like you to ask. God will put names on your heart. BUT, don't stop at the praying. You have to share with and ask the people that are given to you. Ask them right away! Don't put it off, thinking I'll ask them next week. Ask them now so they have time to pray about it also and plan their schedules.

I hope you share with us in the excitement of the New Year. New Camp. New Possibilities.

God's Grace and Peace,

Duane Little (Rector) along with Bruce Daniel (Head Cha)

## **RECTORA...**

It's exciting to know our first team meeting is just weeks away, and I am delighted to have been asked to lead Weekend #45 with our team of women. However, many days, I feel like the Lord has to tug me out of my comfort zone, and remind me that he has given me a responsibility to be his servant, and that he is depending on me. This is when I look to the Lord for reassurance, and He promises to be there.

Sound familiar? Remember at the clausura, "Christ is counting on you", "and I on Him"?

So, now He is counting on us to bring His love and spiritual renewal to the candidates this spring. Our team meetings will help us see how the body of Christ needs each of us, just as we are, with our own strengths and weaknesses and gifts to offer. In *Cure for the Common Life*, Max Lucado says, "With God, every day matters, every person counts. And that includes you. You do something no one else does; in a manner no one else does it. And when your uniqueness meets God's purpose, both of you will rejoice." We will all rejoice!

For those who are planning to be on the team, thank you! For those who are planning to be praying for the weekend, a big thank you! And to our Lord and Heavenly Father who will walk this path with us, our most awesome thank you!!

God loves you and so do we!

Gayle Little, Rectora Weekend #45

Lisa Bettner, Head Cha, Weekend #45

## **COMMUNICATIONS...**

E-mails for prayer requests, joys and thanksgivings to be shared with the community can be emailed to either: [prayers@livingwaterviadecristo.org](mailto:prayers@livingwaterviadecristo.org) or [qcharts@sbcglobal.net](mailto:qcharts@sbcglobal.net)

Or call: 309-792-9030

Check out our website: [www.livingwaterviadecristo.org](http://www.livingwaterviadecristo.org)

Wishing everyone a Blessed and Happy Healthy New Year!!!

GLYASDI

Cindy Hart

LWVdC Communications

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 **\$35.00** (make checks payable to Living Water Via de Cristo), to the Pre-Weekend Chairs:

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

The deposit will be applied to the suggested contribution of **\$135.00**. 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.*