

Living Water Via de Cristo News

May/June 2012 Issue 162

~Ultreya News~

The June 2nd Ultreya and
LWVdC Annual meeting

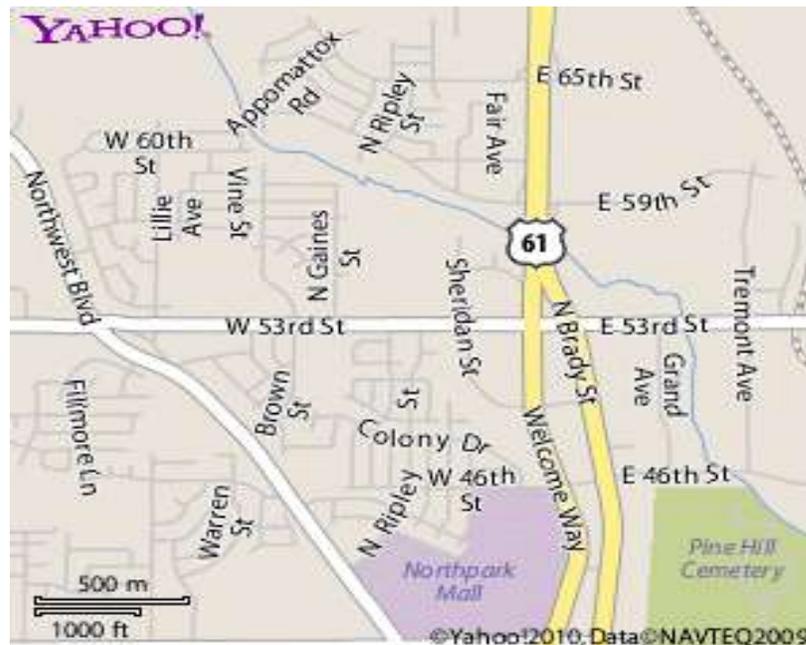
Will be hosted by:

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

415 W 53rd Street

Davenport, Iowa 52806

(563)391-4519



Prince of Peace is located on the corner of Western Ave and 53rd Street, 4 blocks west of Brady Street and across the street from North High School and North YMCA.

Potluck supper begins at 5:30 PM followed by a short meeting, with the election of new Secretariat members and then worships service.

Couples bring one dish to pass, families please 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.

Upcoming Dates:

Weekend #46 Mixed Weekend November 8 -11

Retreat Site: *Camp Menno Haven and Retreat Center, Tiskilwa IL*

Team training dates are listed below:

Saturday, August 25~8 a.m.

Saturday, September 15~8 a.m.

Overnight - Friday, September 28~7 p.m. *through* Saturday, September 29~3 p.m.

Saturday, October 20~8 a.m.

***Locations will be announced at a later date**

Team application and Pilgrim Forms attached.

LAY DIRECTOR(S) ...

A while back I received an envelope in the mail, with the Davenport Police Department listed in the return address. This can't be *good*, I thought to myself. Having cemented my reputation as a "good citizen" as far back as my Garfield School Safety Patrol days (complete with orange reflector belt), I'm not one who likes to give the police any reason to take notice of me. Well, I opened that envelope to find a ticket for speeding. Included was a picture of my car, with the driver blacked out, as well as a close-up view of my EZWRITER license plate. I had been "captured" by a speed camera in downtown Davenport, on my way to a temp job. According to this little piece of modern gadgetry, I was going 38 mph in a 25 mph zone. The fine? Sixty-five bucks, which computes to \$5 per mile over the speed limit. When I sheepishly told my husband about my rare run-in with the law, I noted that I wasn't even aware that the speed dropped to 25 miles on that stretch of road. Where were the signs?

Well, I drove the route again a few days later, and the 25 mph speed limit signs *were there*. I just never noticed them. So I probably was going too fast.

I think sometimes we can be guilty of being "spiritual speeders," as well. Ignoring all God's warnings, we live our lives at a frenzied pace, lapping the tracks of our dizzying days in a perpetual race against time. Always, it seems, there is more to do than time allotted to do it. Carving out a few precious hours to spend in God's presence and in His service can seem all but impossible. We find we're much too harried for holiness.

Then comes Via de Cristo – the Way of Christ. Interestingly, another translation for "via" is "road." But it's definitely not the kind of road we usually travel. This *Via de Cristo* is no whip-zip Interstate. No. Rather, it's a meandering, scenic byway that allows us – or maybe even *forces* us – to sloooooow down and really take in all the beauty of what God has to offer. Here, it is very hard to miss the "signs" – the ones that reveal the vast measure of God's love for us. Via de Cristo helps us see that the Christian life is not about the race; it's about His grace.

We have all traveled this stretch together, and we know what a "joy ride" it can be. But let's make sure that Via de Cristo doesn't become the "road less traveled." We on the Secretariat have been very heartened by the increased number of pilgrims who headed down this "Way" for the Spring 2012 weekends. And now we need to all work together to ensure there are plenty of folks joining us on the journey for Living Water's mixed weekend this November. It isn't too early to start praying and asking God to put someone's name on your heart. Meanwhile, maybe it's good to think about your own faith journey. Have you been taking the time to really see what God has put before you? Or is it all going by in a blur? In your human hurriedness, what grace-filled experiences have you been missing? Sloooooow down.

In the journey of faith, there is no fast lane, and no finish line. GLYASDW!

Your lay directors,
Barb & Joe Geerts #16

RECTOR/RECTORA...

“When God calls you to do something, He enables you to do it.”~Robert Schuller

As the flowers are blooming and vegetable seeds and plants are placed in the ground, our prayers, hearts, and minds are gathered around Living Water Via de Cristo Mixed Weekend #46 that will be held November 8th through 11th this fall. We are cherishing the beauty of spring and dreaming of the warm days of summer, but we know that God has called this servant community to come together to help others grow closer to Him this fall. We were humbled to be asked to lead the fall weekend, and it seemed a bit surreal that God would entrust us with this leadership. We felt there were many others with such exceptional spiritual gifts, and wondered why would we be asked? **Following Jesus is often full of surprises. You never know when He is going to call. One thing is for certain and that is as you all know, God doesn't call the prepared; He prepares the called.** We have prayed for LWVdC Weekend #46 since the day we received the call to consider leading the weekend, and we have complete faith and trust in God that He will bring a team together to serve the candidates.

God provides all the resources we need if we can let go and totally trust. God is already blessing this team. The first blessing was Cindy Hart answering God's call to serve as the Head Cha this fall. If you know her, you already love her. If you don't know her, but plan to team, we have no doubt you will be blessed by her friendship, faith, and love for life. Be ready to laugh and smile because she brings that out in everyone she meets. The second blessing came from a very wise past Rectora who shared that the first thing she did was get her prayer warriors on board. We treasure good advice, and acted on it promptly. **Weekend #46 already has nine faithful and dynamic prayer warriors raising the team and candidates in prayer.** People are already praying for those of you who will be teaming! Isn't that remarkable? It's truly amazing! These prayer warriors love God and you so much that they have already prioritized praying for you and the candidates. We would like to pass on this idea. Run a copy of the team application and the pilgrim application that are included in this newsletter and place both somewhere that you will see each of them daily. **As you glance at the team application, ask God if He is calling you to serve on this weekend. As your eyes look at the “blank line” needing the name of a candidate, ask God to grant you courage to invite someone on this weekend, and let Him lead you to the person. You may be surprised at the door He opens and even more, the person that walks through it.**

We're so excited to be a part of God's plan for Weekend #46! So, with peace in our hearts and trust in our living and loving God, we look forward to this team forming to serve the candidates that God has chosen for Weekend #46.

GLYASDW!

*Jim & Debbie Case and Cindy Hart
Rector & Rectora and Head Cha #46*

LEADERS CHAIR...

Leader's School (AKA Continuing Education)

So you have reflected on your weekend experience and feel called to serve others as you were served? Would you like to learn more about the history and the dynamics of a Via de Cristo weekend? New Pilgrims, we invite you to consider serving on an upcoming weekend team. Attending Leader's School is required to serve on the fall team.

Old hands, come and refresh your understanding of traditions and practices that are part of the weekend experience. A Leader School will be held from 2:00 to 5:30 immediately before the June 2 Ultreya at Peace Lutheran Church in Davenport. Follow the directions for the Ultreya, and join us. No reservations, only a servant's heart required.

Clark Stojan
Leaders Chairperson

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 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.

Living Water Via de Cristo Team Participation
Weekend #46 Mixed Weekend November 8 -11
Retreat Site: Camp Menno Haven and Retreat Center, Tiskilwa IL

Team training dates are listed below:

Saturday, August 25~8 a.m.
Saturday, September 15~8 a.m.
Overnight training - Friday, September 28~7 p.m. *through* Saturday, September 29~3 p.m.
Saturday, October 20~8 a.m.

Locations 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.**

****Continuing Education class will be offered June 2nd from 2 – 5 p.m. @ Prince of Peace Lutheran Davenport IA., prior to the Ultreya**

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 #46

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 #46.

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

Name: _____ Email Address: (optional) _____

Address: _____ Telephone # () _____ Cell # () _____

Thank you for your willingness to serve the Lord through this renewal weekend. Please return this form to the following leaders by: **6/9/2012**. *Application submission does not guarantee placement on team, only willingness to be called.*

Rector/ Rectora:
Jim and Debbie Case
9110 Knoxville Road
Milan, IL 61265
309-787-4895
debjim1277@gmail.com

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

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

Living Water Via de Cristo Secretariat Members 2011-2012

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|--|--------------|------------------------------------|
| 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: Jim Whitten | 815-894-9315 | whittn5@frontier.com |
| Kitchen: Tom and Wanda Nelson | 815-875-3185 | twdlnel@frontier.com |
| Post-Weekend: Diana Wallace | 815-875-4391 | diana.wallace_3691@yahoo.com |
| Leaders: Clark Stojan | 309-792-3431 | cstojan@w-slaw.com |
| Palanca: Jim and Patty Turner | 309-945-5538 | jpturner@mediacombb.net |
| Communications: Cindy Hart | 309-792-9030 | prayers@livingwaterviadecristo.org |